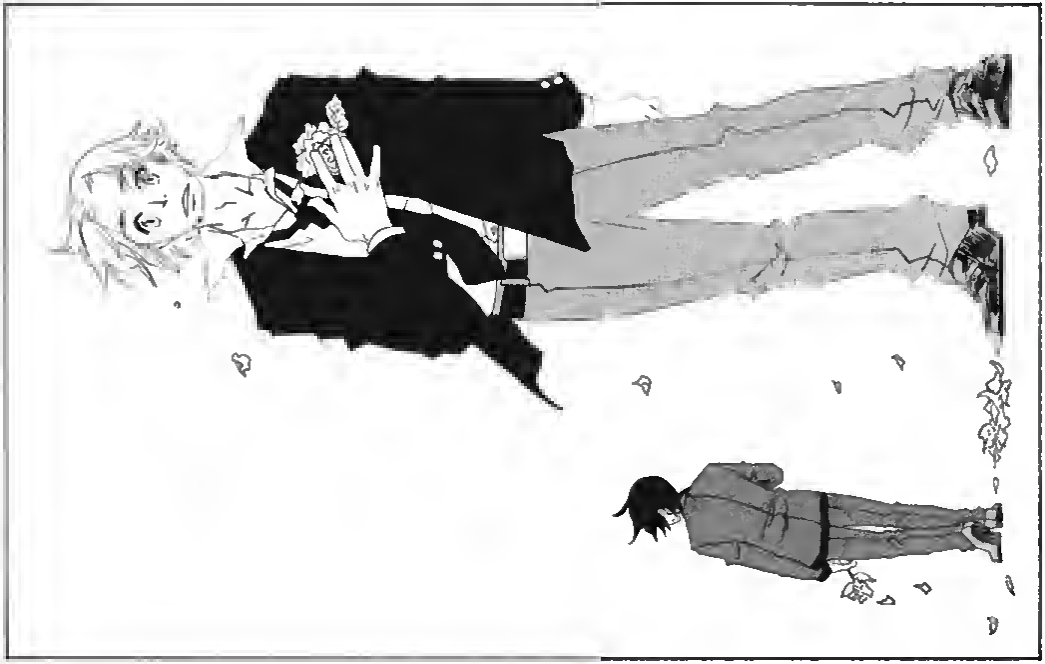
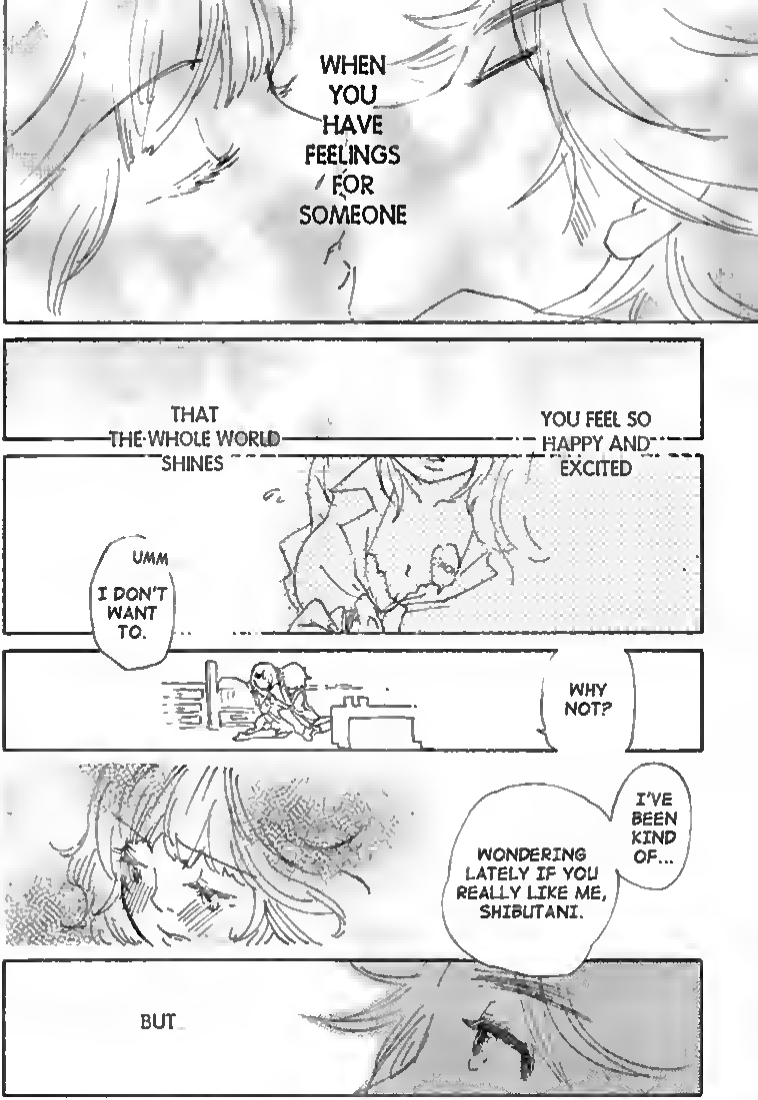
Sumitomo Morozumi
Merry Family Plan
NET COMICS



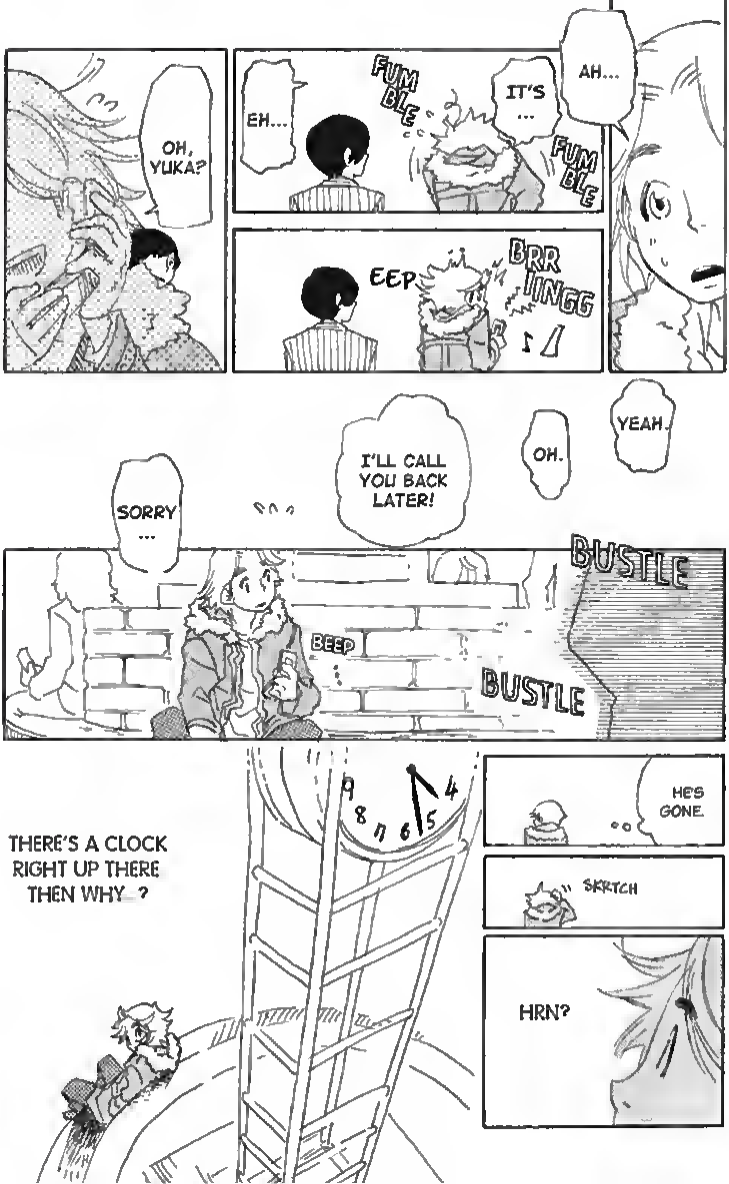
AN UNFADING ROSE COVERED IN MUD


WHEN YOU HAVE FEELINGS FOR SOMEONE
THAT THE WHOLE WORLD SHINES
YOU FEEL SO HAPPY AND EXCITED
UMM
I DON'T WANT TO.
WHY NOT?
I'VE BEEN KIND OF...
WONDERING LATELY IF YOU REALLY LIKE ME, SHIBUTANI.
BUT

WHY...
HER ROAR
DO MY RELATIONSHIPS ALWAYS END SO SOON?
I'M HUNGRY.
MAYBE I SHOULD GRAB SOMETHING TO EAT...
RUMMAGE
SHHF

THIS IS DANGEROUS.

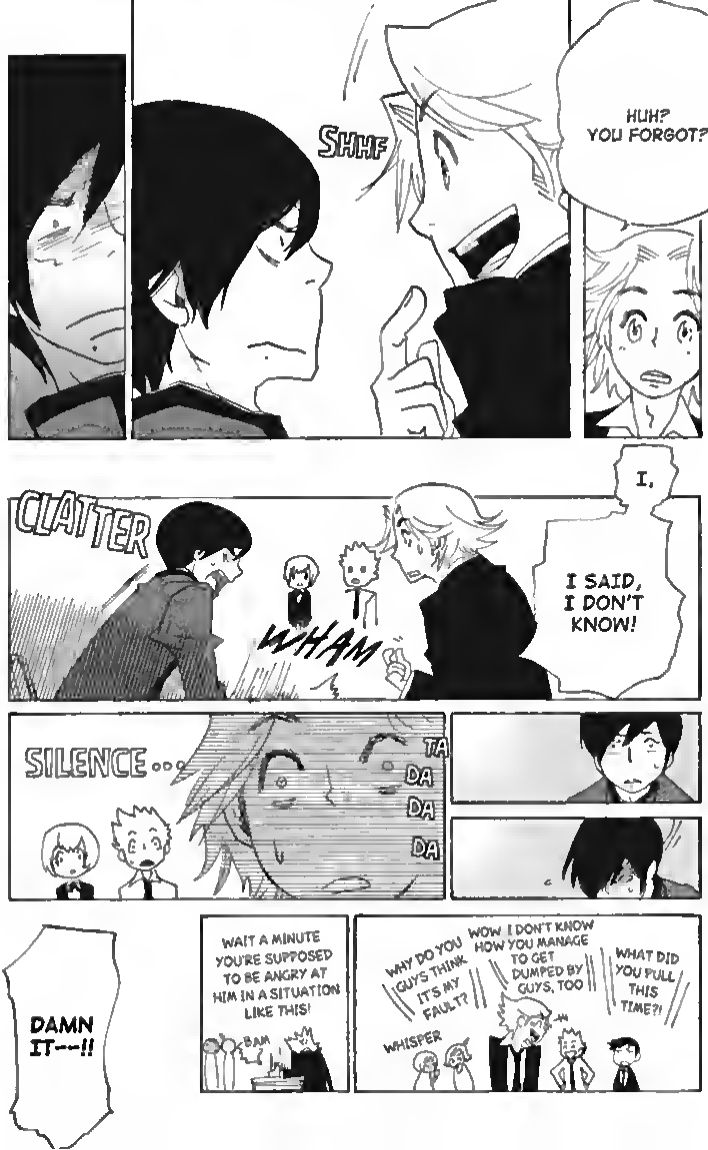
LIM, WHAT TIME IS IT NOW?
AH...


OH, YUKA?
EH...
FUM BLE
IT'S ...
FUM BLE
AH...
EEP
BRR LINGG
YEAH.
OH.
I'LL CALL YOU BACK LATER!
SORRY ...
BEEP
BUSTLE
BUSTLE
THERE'S A CLOCK RIGHT UP THERE THEN WHY...?
HE'S GONE.
SKRTCH
HRN?

3-D
S--
SAFE!
DRRK
DING DONG
WHOA, THIS IS A NEW RECORD
SHUT UP. HOW DID YOU GUYS FIND OUT?!
DON'T LAUGH!
WHAT NUMBER ARE YOU UP TO NOW?
BWA HA HA
IT HAPPENS OFTEN, TOO!
YO, SHIBUTANI! HEARD YOU GOT DUMPED AGAIN.
'IF YOU REALLY LIKE ME, HOW COME YOU NEVER SAY ANYTHING EVEN AFTER SEEING ANOTHER GUY WITH HIS ARM AROUND ME?
HEY--!
BIG NEWS!
I JUST DIDN'T WANT TO GET UPSET OR ARGUE 'CAUSE I LIKED HER.

WE GOT A TRANSFER KID COMING INTO OUR CLASS!
I'M YOSHIZUMI HIROHUMI.
WHISPER
I MOVED TO THIS DISTRICT BECAUSE MY FATHER WAS RELOCATED AT HIS JOB.
HEY!
WE GOT A NEW KID TODAY HE REALLY STANDS OUT FOR SOME REASON!
WHAT? DUDE, THAT'S A GUY.
GLANCE
I'M NOT IN-TERES
EVEN THOUGH WE ONLY HAVE A YEAR LEFT TOGETHER ...
THU-THUMP

WHEL
I HOPE WE CAN BE GOOD FRIENDS.
WOW!
CLAP CLAP
HRN ?
WHAT D YA DOING, SHIBUTANI?
AH HA HA
WA HA HA
I CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOU IN ⇔ THE NE ONE.
IS THAT YOUR OLD SCHOOL S UNIFORM?
HEY, HEY!
HEY, YOU.
DIDN'T WE BUMP INTO EACH OTHER YESTERDAY ?
YOU KNOW, AT THE STATION —
DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT.
EH.
SHIBUTANI, YOU ALREADY KNEW YOSHI-ZUMI?
COOL~
KYAH!


SHHF
HUH? YOU FORGOT?
CLATTER
WHAM
I,
I SAID, I DON'T KNOW!
SILENCE...
TA
DA
DA
DA
DAMN IT---!!
WAIT A MINUTE YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE ANGRY AT HIM IN A SITUATION LIKE THIS!
BAM
WHY DO YOU GUYS THINK IT'S MY FAULT?
WOW I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU MANAGE TO GET DUMPED BY GUYS, TOO
WHAT DID YOU PULL THIS TIME?!
WHISPER

HE DIDN'T HAVE TO GET SO ANGRY AT ME.
GRRR
I'LL PASS TODAY!
HEY, SHIBUTANI. LET'S HIT THE SNACK CORNER--.
THE HELL WAS WRONG WITH THAT JERK?
STRIDE
STRIDE
SWISH
SWISH
THE ROOFTOP'S THE BEST PLACE TO BE IN A TIME LIKE THIS.
KLIK...
THUM...
EH? WHAT'S HE DOING ALL THE WAY UP HERE?

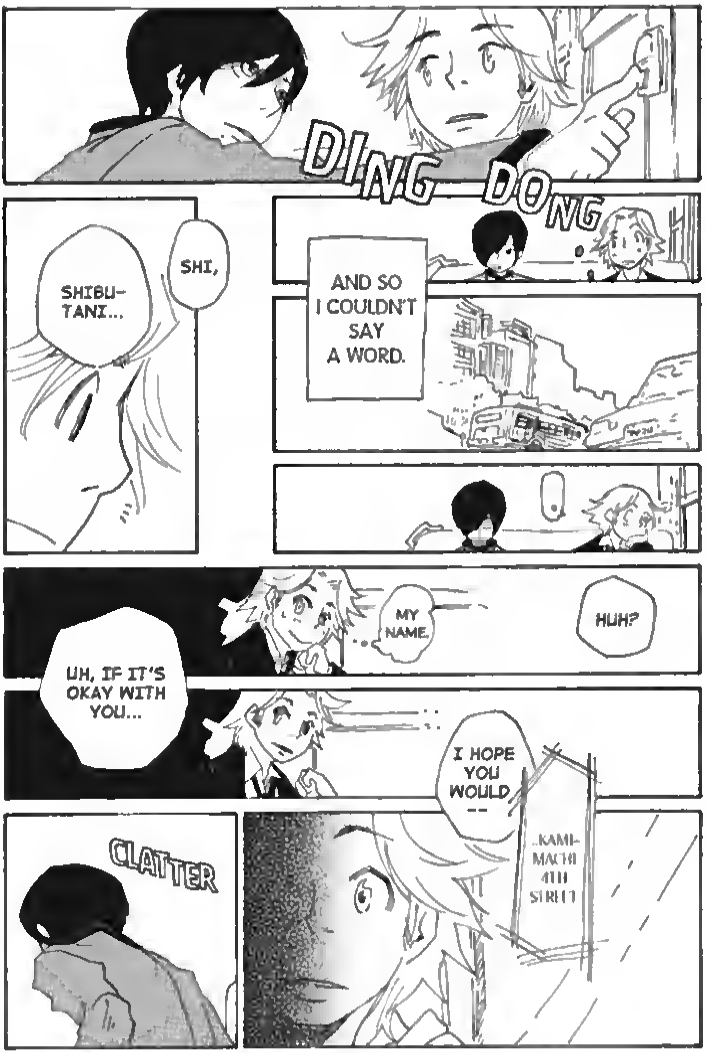
WIPE
LUB
DUB
LUBDUB
LUBDUB
LUBDUB
LUBDUB
LUBDUB
LUBDUB
THUM

WHY--?
...
OR HE MISSES HIS OLD SCHOOL?
MAYBE HE GOT INTO AN ARGUMENT WITH HIS PARENTS?
AN OUTSIDER?
BEEP
WHAM
YES, I CAN UNDERSTAND THAT YOSHIZUMI IS ON YOUR MIND, BUT YOU SHOULD STILL LOOK UP HERE
...

I SAID I DON'T KNOW!!
LUCKY-- I'M NOT LATE
THANK YOU--
PAH--, HOW EMBARRASSING.
THUMP
THUMP
BYE
WHY WOULD HE LIE?
STOMP
STOMP
STOMP
KCHING
STOMP
EEP. HE TAKES THE SAME BUS?

PLOP
THIS IS EXTREMELY AWKWARD.
SHHF
THE BUS IS NOW DEPARTING
UM...
I'M SORRY ABOUT YESTERDAY.
UH...
THERE ARE OTHER SEATS, SO WHY...
UMM
I...
YOU SEE, I WAS NERVOUS.
SORRY FOR GETTING MAD FOR NO REASON

OH...
I SEE. YEAH, IT'S OKAY.
BUT HOW COME--
HOW COME--
I'M GLAD.
I WANTED TO ASK HIM A LOT OF QUESTIONS.
BUT..
FOR SOME REASON, MY MIND DREW A BLANK.
THE NEXT STOP IS KAMI-MACHI 4TH STREET


DING DONG
AND SO I COULDN'T SAY A WORD.
SHI,
SHIBU-TANI...
...
HUH?
MY NAME.
UH, IF IT'S OKAY WITH YOU...
I HOPE YOU WOULD --
..KAMI-MACHI 4TH STREET
CLATTER

"...BE MY FRIEND."

BECAME FRIENDS.
VROOM
RUSTLE
CHIRP
EH
I'M SLEEPY.
THE NEXT STOP IS KAMIMACHI 4TH STREET.
AH.
GOOD MORNING
HI---.
OH!

Sumitomo Morozumi
Merry Family Plan
NET COMICS

RIGHT...
IT FINALLY CAME YESTERDAY.
IT LOOKS WEIRD ON ME?
WHAT IS IT?
SPARKLE...
NAH, IT'S NOTHING.
I COULDN'T...
TELL HIM HOW GOOD THE NEW UNIFORM LOOKED ON HIM.
WOW---.
YOU LOOK SO GOOD IN OUR SCHOOL UNIFORM, YOSHIZUMI!!

GOOD NOW I WON'T STAND OUT ALL ALONE
IT GOES WELL WITH YOU
WHAT'S THIS?!
OUR UNIFORM LOOKS GREAT ON YOU, YOSHIZUMI
OH,
WHAT THE_?
WHAT THE HELL IS THIS?
DING DONG
OH, THERE GOES SHIBUTANI --!!
SO ANNOYING.
BApp
BApp
DAMN IT.

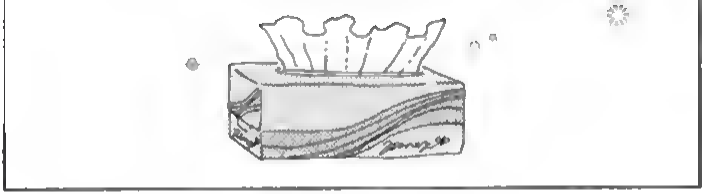
EH--, I GOTTA TAKE CARE OF SOMETHING TODAY.
WE'RE GONNA GRAB A BITE AFTER SCHOOL. WANNA JOIN US?
IT WAS COOL TO HAVE HIM AROUND, 'CAUSE HE'S SUCH AN UPPER.
AL-RIGHT, THEN
OH, I SEE.
IT'S BEEN HARD TO GET HIM TO HANG WITH US LATELY
YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'RE IN A BAD MOOD.

BUT...
NO!
YOU GOT DUMPED AGAIN, RIGHT?
AH HA HA...
NOT REALLY.
I WANTED TO BE THE FIRST ONE TO TELL YOU...
"YOU LOOK GOOD IN IT"
BUT...
I WAS THE FIRST ONE WHO SAW YOU IN THE NEW UNIFORM

ARE YOU BEING JEALOUS?
WHAT IS THAT...
JEA...
LOUS ?!
THAT'S CUTE.

THAT'S ODD. MAYBE HE'S FEELING SICK?
HE'S SLEEPING. HE SAYS HE DOESN'T WANT TO EAT.
THANK YOU FOR DINNER!
WHERE'S MY SON?
BURBLE
BURBLE
HUH?
ONIISAN IS...
DEFINITELY LOVESICK.
'THAT'S CUTE.'
WHAP
BOOM
FIRECRACKER

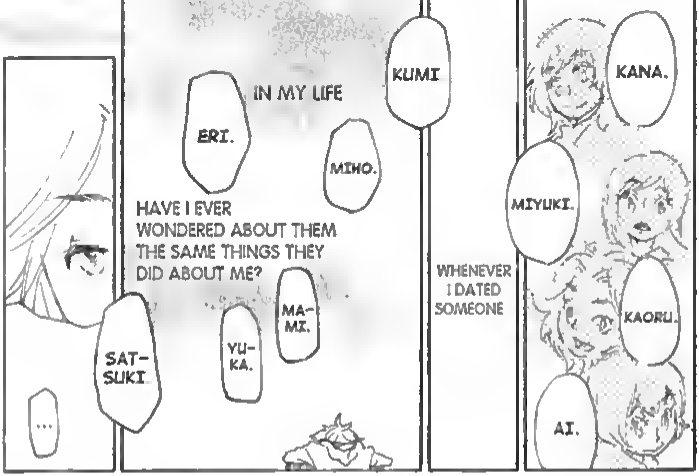
SLIP
THIS IS DANGEROUS.
AT THIS RATE,
IT'S LOOKING MORE AND MORE AS IF I...
LIKE ...
BOLT
NAH
NAH
THAT'S CUTE
WHIRL
WHIRL
WHIRL
WHIRL
NO, NO. THAT WAS JUST ME THAT I WANT TO BE A CLOSER FRIEND TO YOU.
TRYING TO SAY...
PLAYING BY HIMSELF
AHA HA HA HA HA
BOLT
HUH?!



FRIEND--
"I HOPE YOU WOULD BE MY FRIEND
SHOULDN'T HAVE TRIED OUT THIS KIND OF EXPERIMENT.

NO, THIS IS DIFFERENT.
THIS IS DANGER-OUS.
I DEFINITELY HAVE FEELINGS FOR HIM.
BUT, HE'S A GUY.
NO.
I DON'T THINK THAT'LL MATTER.
SO, THE POINT IS THAT THE PERSON ...
...

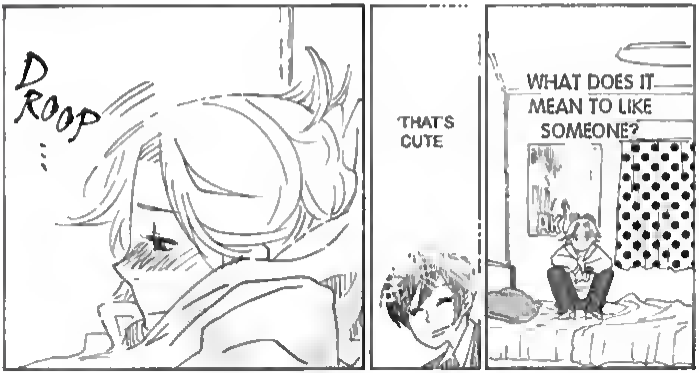
LIKES ME.



'...WONDERING LATELY IF

YOU REALLY LIKE ME, SHIBUTANI.'

LIKING



UHH?
3-D
HUH?
I WAS GONNA SAY YOU'VE BEEN COMING ON TIME FOR A CHANGE LATELY...
IT'S 3RD PERIOD.
I OVERSLEPT
LUSHUSH...
MAYBE YOU JERKED OFF FOR TOO LONG.
NAH, SAY IT AIN'T SO!
N, NO!
HUH? MAYBE HE DIDN'T HEAR ME?
...

AH...
LOOKS LIKE IT'S GONNA RAIN.
PLIP
PLOP
...
IT REALLY IS RAINING.
GOOD THING I LEFT AN UMBRELLA AT SCHOOL
SHARE IT WITH ME. LET'S SHARE. PLEASE
SHOULDVE BROUGHT AN UMBRELLA.
AH!

LUCKY!
I SHOULD ASK HIM TO SHA...
STOMP...

VROOM
THE NEXT STOP IS KAMI-MACHI 4TH STREET.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO GET OFF HERE.
THIS ISN'T WHAT I HAD IN MIND
I NEVER INTENDED TO SHOW THIS UGLY, WILD, AND...
DISGUSTING SIDE OF ME
DON'T GO.
WHEN I FIND SOME-ONE I LIKE

I...
DRIP
DRIP
BLU
SH
CLATTER
AH,
I GOT...
THUNK
IT.

SORRY, SIR I'M GONNA GET OFF HERE!
TA DA DA DA
...
CLATTER
DING DONG
...KAMI-MACHI 4TH STREET

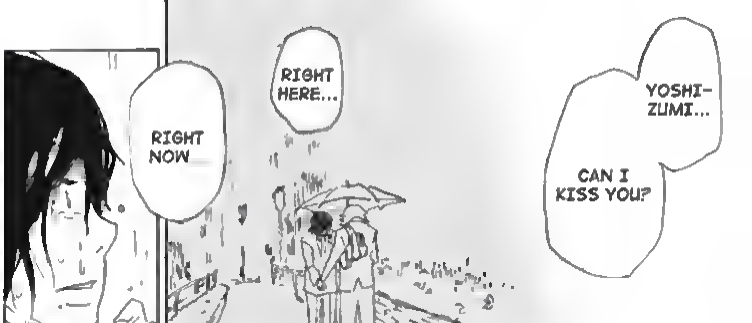
SPLOOSH
HUFF
SPLOOSH
HUFF
HUFF
HAAH
SPLOOSH
HUFF
SPLOOSH
OOH
...
HAAH
HAAH
OOF.
HAAH
SOB...
SNIFF
SNIFF

HAFF
HAFF
HAFF
YOSHI-ZUMI!
HAFF
HAFF
HUFF
HUFF
SORRY.
SORRY, I...
I WAS BEING STUPID.
YOU SAID IT WAS FINE FOR US TO BE FRIENDS.
IT OBVIOUSLY WASN'T GONNA WORK.
I SHOULDN'T HAVE GONE TO THE STUPID STATION THAT DAY.

I SHOULD NEVER HAVE BEEN BORN A BOY.
I SHOULDN'T HAVE DONE ANYTHING LIKE TALK TO YOU.
I SHOULDN'T HAVE COME TO THIS SCHOOL.
IF I'M GONNA HAVE TO FEEL LIKE THIS
WHENEVER I LIKE SOMEONE.

.....
I...
HAVE ALWAYS THOUGHT THAT LIKING SOMEONE MEANT...
HAVING DAYS FULL OF CLEAN, HAPPY, AND THRILLING THINGS.
BUT,
THE TRUTH IS... I'VE THOUGHT THAT WAY BECAUSE...
I HATED TO SEE MYSELF BECOME ...
DESPERATE OR PATHETIC OVER SOMEONE.

I JUST HATED BEING THE ONE COVERED WITH MUD.
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I REALIZED THAT.
BECAUSE I STARTED TO
HAVE FEELINGS FOR YOU, YOSHI-ZUMI.
I'M GLAD YOU'RE THE ONE I HAVE FEELINGS FOR.
REALLY.



THAT NIGHT, MY BODY TEMPERATURE SHOT UP TO 39 DEGREES.

OF COURSE, ONE ABOUT YOSHI-ZUMI
THE DREAM I HAD. RESTLESS FROM THE FEVER WAS,
IT'S HIROHUMI!
YOSHI ZUMI
I WANNA USE YOUR FIRST NAME NOT YOUR LAST
WHAT WAS IT?
YOU KNOW, I WASN'T REALLY PAYING ATTENTION THAT DAY
RIGHT!
HIRO, THEN
IT'S HIRO
HIRO
HIRO.
HUH?
HIRO...

THANKS
THEY SAY EVEN DOGS DON'T CATCH A COLD DURING SUMMER BUT LOOK HOW SICK MY BOY IS.
QUIET!
DON'T KEEP YOUR FRIEND TOO LONG!
SQUEAK
ACK

YOU HAVE A FRIEND VISITING FOR A CHANGE.
OH? I'LL DO THAT?
GOOD NESS

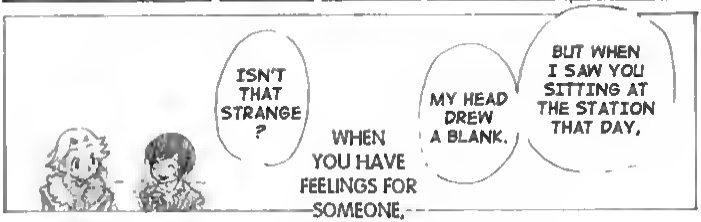
ARE YOU FINALLY AWAKE?
OH, MY.
WHOAH!
THE DREAM BECAME MY REALITY?

SHIBUTANI.
CHILL

I TOLD MYSELF I WASN'T GONNA LIKE ANYONE EVER AGAIN.

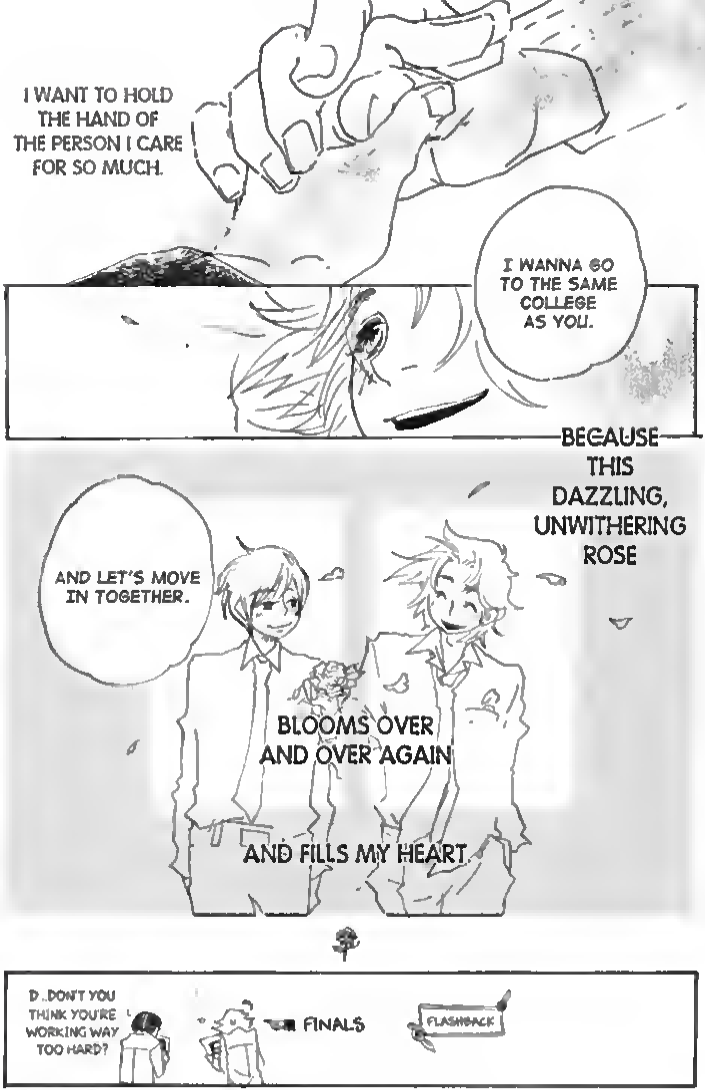
BECAUSE OF THE FACT THAT I LIKE GUYS.

I HAD A LITTLE TROUBLE AT MY OLD SCHOOL,
I...


ISN'T THAT STRANGE?
WHEN YOU HAVE FEELINGS FOR SOMEONE,
MY HEAD DREW A BLANK.
BUT WHEN I SAW YOU SITTING AT THE STATION THAT DAY,

I'M GLAD YOU'RE THE ONE I HAVE FEELINGS FOR, TOO.
THE WHOLE WORLD SHINES
DRIP

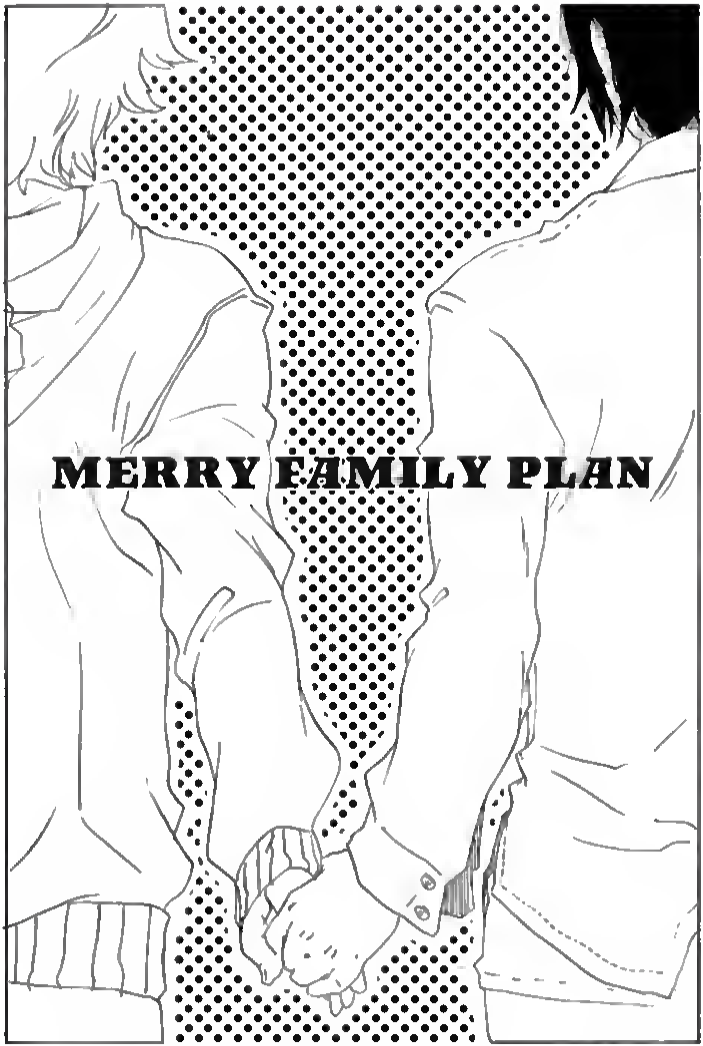
AWW I'D BETTER NOT CATCH THIS
YOU'RE WIPING IT ON ME
FLIP FLIP FLIP
DRIP
AND COVERED IN MUD
YOSHI ...
EVEN IF IT'S UGLY AND DISGUSTING
.....
.....
HI HIRO...


I WANT TO HOLD THE HAND OF THE PERSON I CARE FOR SO MUCH.
I WANNA GO TO THE SAME COLLEGE AS YOU.
BECAUSE THIS DAZZLING, UNWITHERING ROSE
AND LET'S MOVE IN TOGETHER.
BLOOMS OVER AND OVER AGAIN
AND FILLS MY HEART.
D..DON'T YOU THINK YOU'RE WORKING WAY TOO HARD?
FINALS
FLASHBACK

THE END OF *AN UNFADING ROSE COVERED IN MUD.*

Sumitomo Morozumi
Merry Family Plan
NET COMICS

MY LIFE'S A TOTAL MESS BECAUSE OF YOU!
SHALL WE...
GET BACK TO IT?
I'VE NOT ONCE HAD FEELINGS FOR A WOMAN IN ALL MY 22 YEARS OF LIFE.


MERRY FAMILY PLAN

WE'VE BEEN SEEING EACH OTHER SINCE HIGH SCHOOL. WE'RE LIVING TOGETHER NOW.

THIS GUY APPLIED TO
THE SAME COLLEGE AS ME,
BUT HE DIDN'T GET IN.

SO, HE WAS SET BACK
A YEAR TO STUDY BEFORE
HE COULD APPLY AGAIN.

4 YEARS SINCE THAT DAY, 3 YEARS SINCE WE MOVED IN TOGETHER.

PBTBT.

WHY ARE YOU LAUGHING?

THE WAY HE LOOKED THEN...

SHEESH, I CAN'T PUT UP WITH THIS ANYMORE

HA, THAT COMEDIAN'S HILARIOUS.

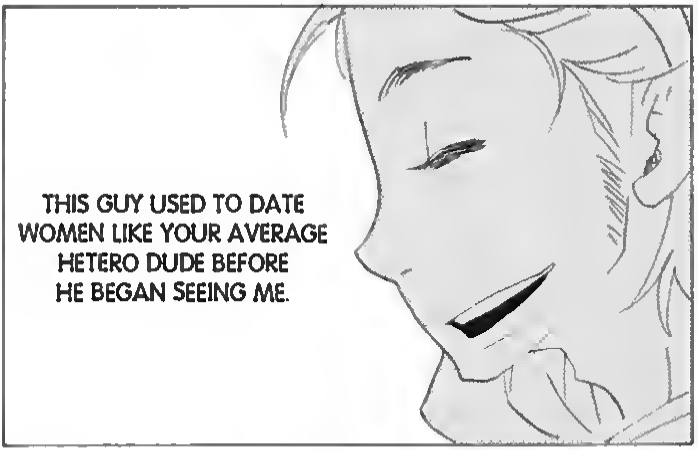
WOW

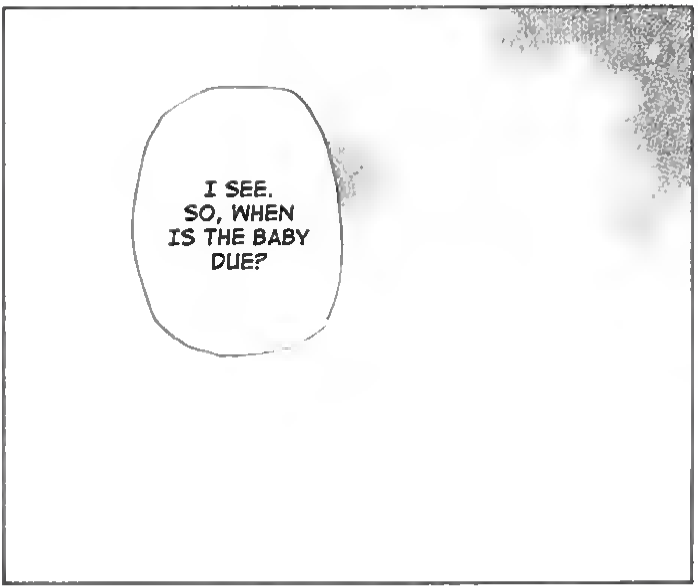
BWA HA HA HA

SLURP

BWOOP

THEREFORE- OUR PLANS OF RETIREMENT

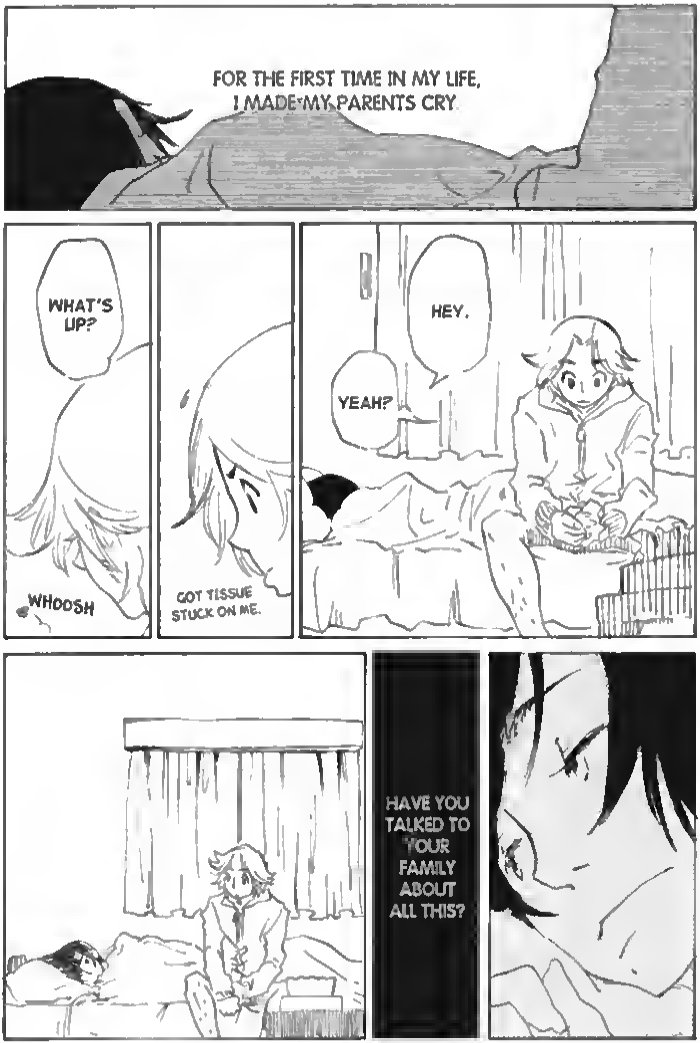

THIS GUY USED TO DATE WOMEN LIKE YOUR AVERAGE HETERO DUDE BEFORE HE BEGAN SEEING ME.

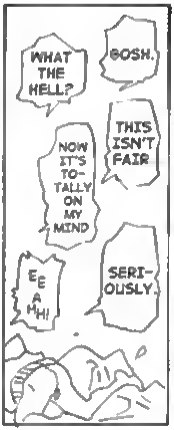

I SEE. SO, WHEN IS THE BABY DUE?

THEY
YEAH.
YEAH.
WHAT?
CLATTER
I'VE BEEN EATING WELL
OKAY--, SEE YOU NEXT TIME
THEY
REALLY? ISN'T THAT TOO SOON?
CLICK
HUH? OH, YEAH.
NOT MUCH LONGER?
MOEH.

ANYWAY, WHAT ABOUT YOUR WORK TODAY?
NO WORK TODAY
NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT. YOU HAVE A CLOSE FAMILY.
THAT'S BEING A BAD DAUGHTER, BAD DAUGHTER--
GOODNESS. CAN'T BELIEVE SHE GOT KNOCKED UP BEFORE GETTING MARRIED.
BAD SON.
GASP ---.
AHH.
AHH.
AHH.

FATHER,
FOR ME TO BE ON TOP TODAY?
IS IT ALRIGHT
SO DON'T EXPECT TO SEE A CHILD FROM ME AS LONG AS I LIVE.
I AM SORRY.
THE TRUTH IS...
I LIKE MEN.


FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MY LIFE, I MADE MY PARENTS CRY.
WHAT'S UP?
WHOOSH
GOT TISSUE STUCK ON ME.
HEY.
YEAH?
HAVE YOU TALKED TO YOUR FAMILY ABOUT ALL THIS?

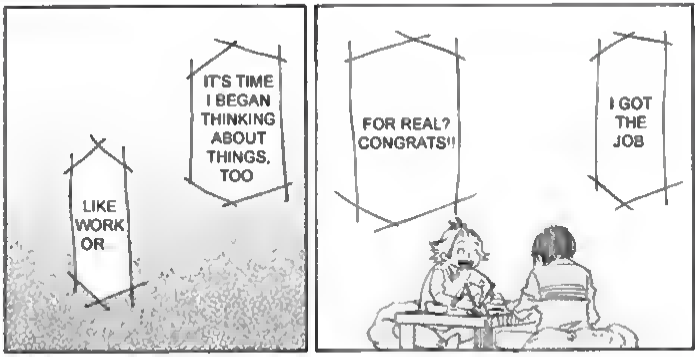

WHAT THE HELL?
GOSH.
THIS ISN'T FAIR
NOW IT'S TOTALLY ON MY MIND
SERIOUSLY.
EEAHH!

NOTHING.

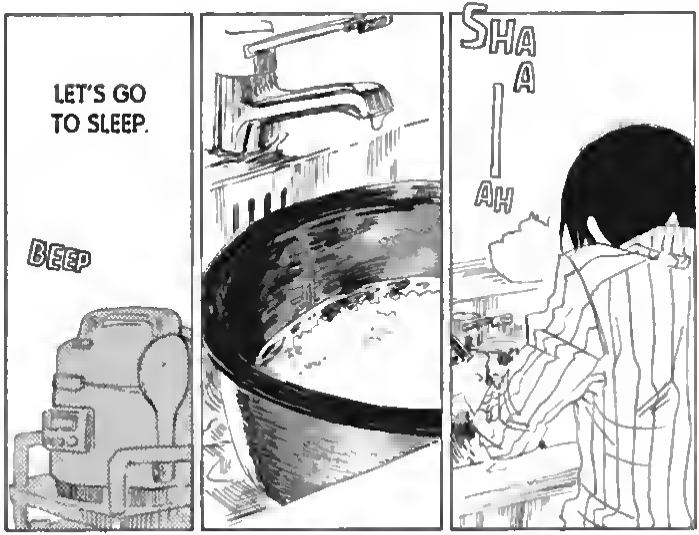
I'M OFF, THEN--.

HAVE A GOOD ONE.

OH,
I ALSO WORK THE NIGHT SHIFT TOMORROW.
I WAS GONNA GO TO THE BOOK STORE...
SHAA AH
HE'S WORKING THE NIGHT SHIFT TODAY?
SO FULL OF ENERGY
RUB
RUB
RUB
WE'RE OUT OF TOILET PAPER.
AND KLEENEX, TOO.
.....
RUB
RUB
RUB
IT TOTALLY FITS YOU
LOOKS GREAT ON YOU LOOKS GOOD
OH FOR YOUR INTERVIEWS?
A SUIT!
I AM HAPPY.


IT'S TIME I BEGAN THINKING ABOUT THINGS, TOO
LIKE WORK OR
FOR REAL? CONGRATS!!
I GOT THE JOB

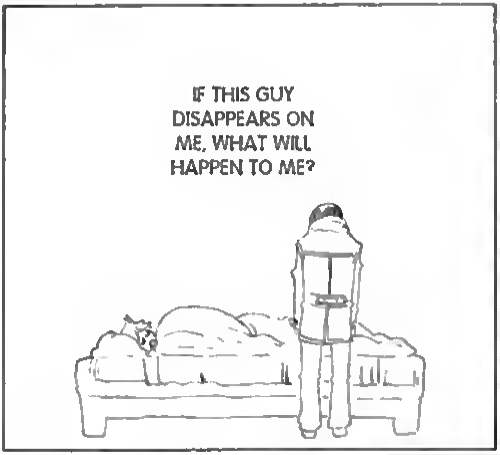
THE FUTURE


LET'S GO TO SLEEP.
BEEP
SHA
A
I
AH

RUSTLE
DAPP
KLIK
KLIK
PLOP...
AH——.
I'M EXHAUSTED.
OH..
SORRY, DID I WAKE YOU?
I LIKE THIS GUY SO MUCH...
YEAH.
HERE, GET UNDER THE COMFORTER.
NO.

WELCOME --.
PRESS THE BUTTON FOR YOUR CHECK
THAT I CAN BARELY COPE WITH THESE CRAZY FEELINGS
MY GOSH! MINE, TOO. SHE LOOKS AND ACTS COMPLETELY LIKE A DUDE!
MY ELDEST IS OLD ENOUGH, BUT HE DOESN'T MENTION THAT SORT OF THING AT ALL. NOT A WORD.
HERE'S YOUR PAN FRIED CHICKEN
SORRY FOR MAKING YOU WAIT LONG.
GIRL-FRIEND ?!

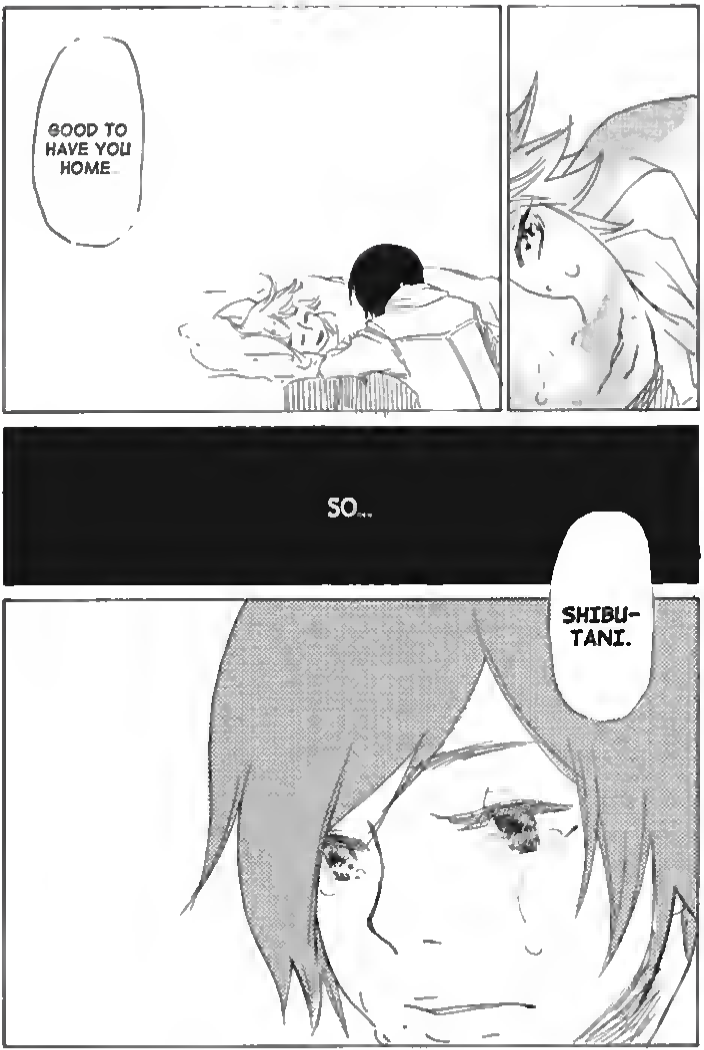
YOU HAVEN'T BEEN BRING-ING ANY GIRLFRIENDS HOME
NOT EVEN ONCE
LATELY ...
THAT'S RIGHT.
HERE YOU GO MOEH
YOU SAID THE SAME THING LAST TIME, ONIISAN!
YEAH!
MAN, THAT'S ENOUGH. I'LL BRING HER HOME SOON. SOON!
TELL US SOME-THING. PLEASE ---.
YOU TOO, HIRO.
REALLY
YES
IF...



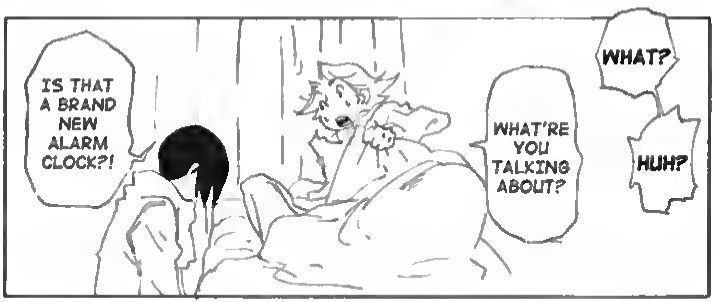
THAT'S OF COURSE TRUE.

BECAUSE I LIKE HIM ENOUGH TO KILL MYSELF OVER HIM.

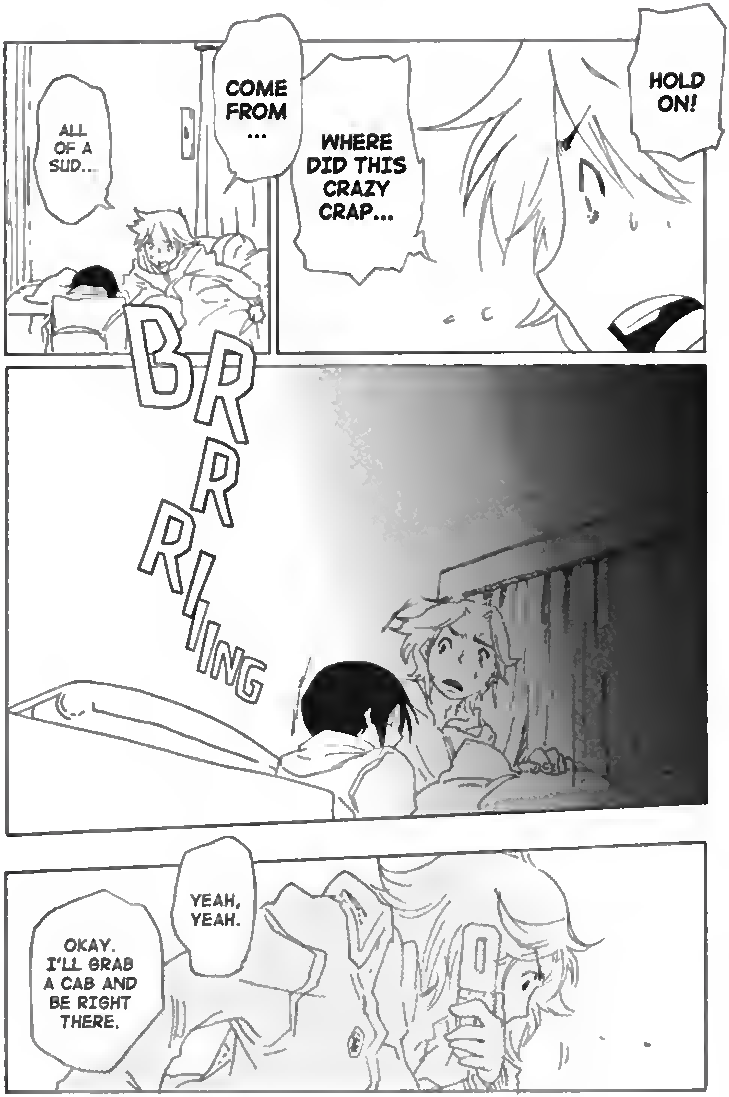
I MIGHT DIE.


GOOD TO HAVE YOU HOME.
SO...
SHIBU-TANI.

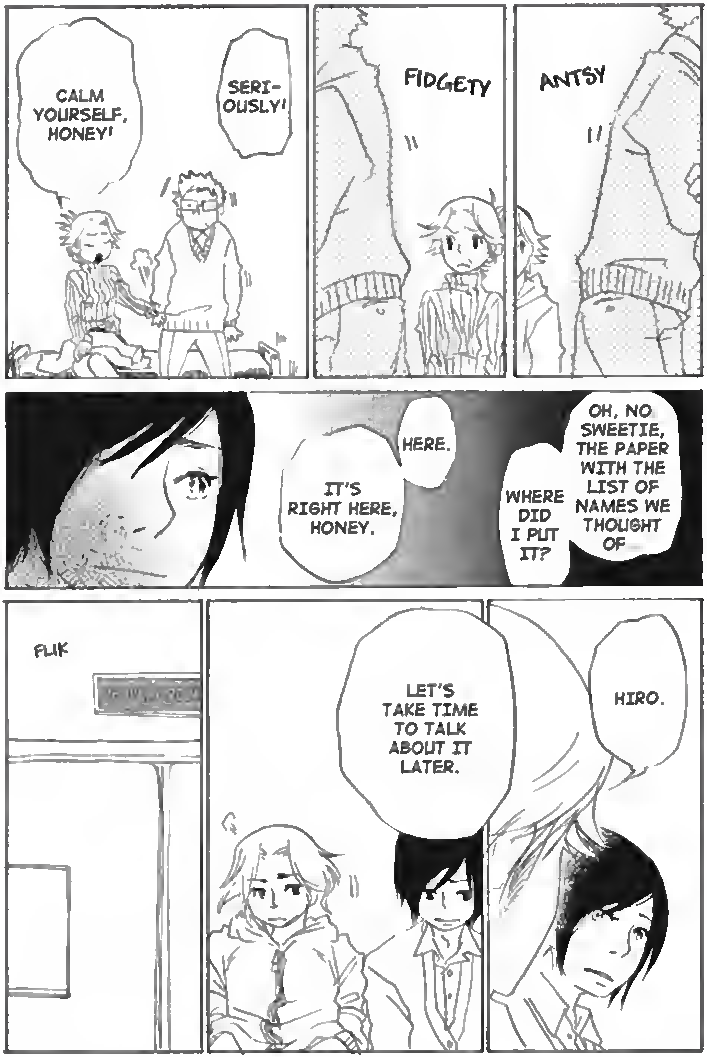
SHOULD WE BREAK UP?
WHAT?

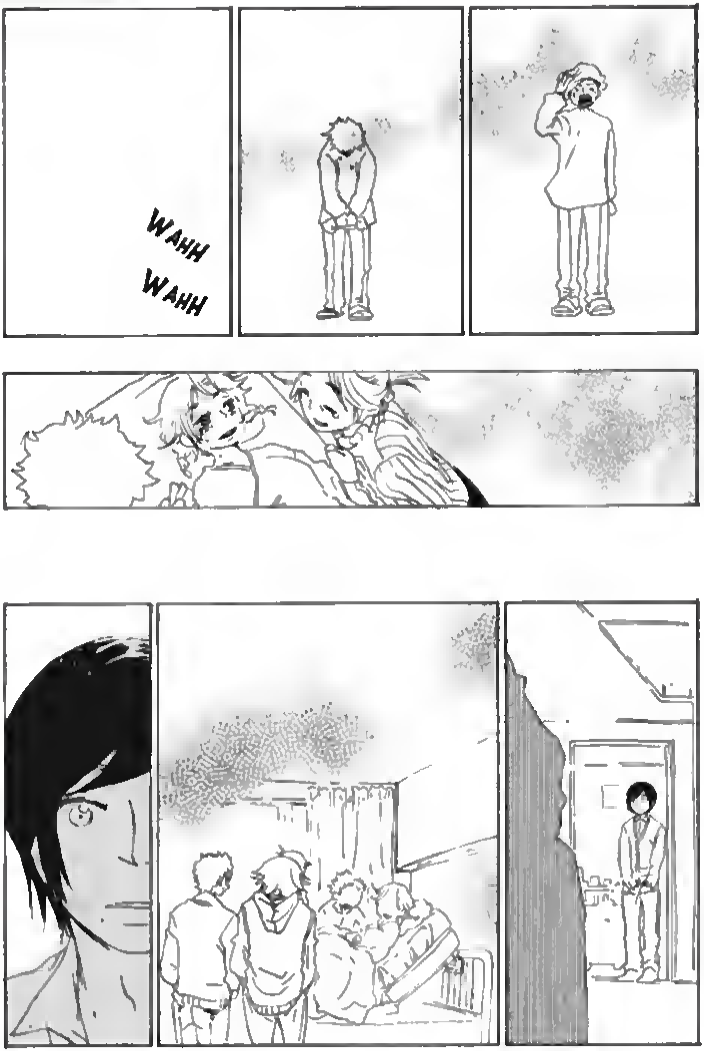

IS THAT A BRAND NEW ALARM CLOCK?!
WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
WHAT?
HUH?

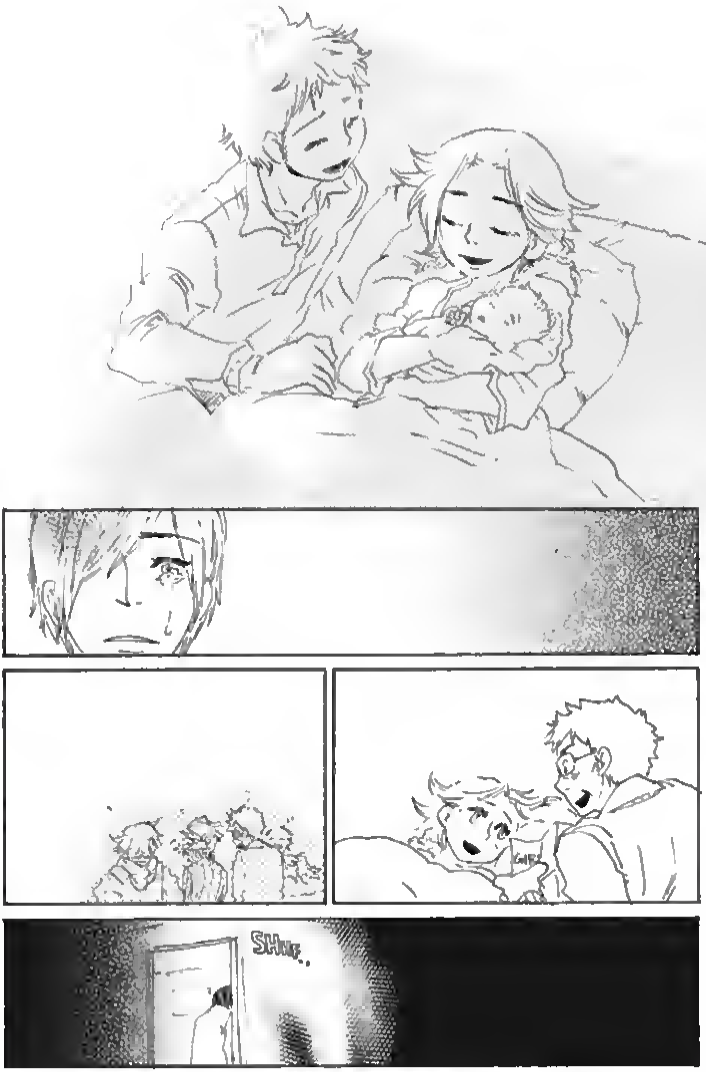
WAIT JUST A MIN-UTE.
I'M THINKING ABOUT MOVING OUT.
WAIT.
AND WHEN I START WORKING ...
I'M FINISHING SCHOOL SOON,
I...


ALL OF A SUD...
COME FROM ...
WHERE DID THIS CRAZY CRAP...
HOLD ON!
BRRRRING
YEAH, YEAH.
OKAY. I'LL GRAB A CAB AND BE RIGHT THERE.

IT'LL MAKE MOEH HAPPY.
COME WITH ME.
LOOKS LIKE SHE'S GOING TO BE FINE.
SHE WENT INTO THE DELIVERY ROOM A LITTLE WHILE AGO.
HOW IS SHE?
HONEY!
BOW
HIRO.
OH, MY.
IT'S NOTHING.
THANKS FOR COMING.


CALM YOURSELF, HONEY!
SERI-OUSLY!
FIDGETY
ANTSY
OH, NO SWEETIE, THE PAPER WITH THE LIST OF NAMES WE THOUGHT OF
WHERE DID I PUT IT?
HERE.
IT'S RIGHT HERE, HONEY.
FLIK
LET'S TAKE TIME TO TALK ABOUT IT LATER.
HIRO.


WAHH
WAHH


SHH..

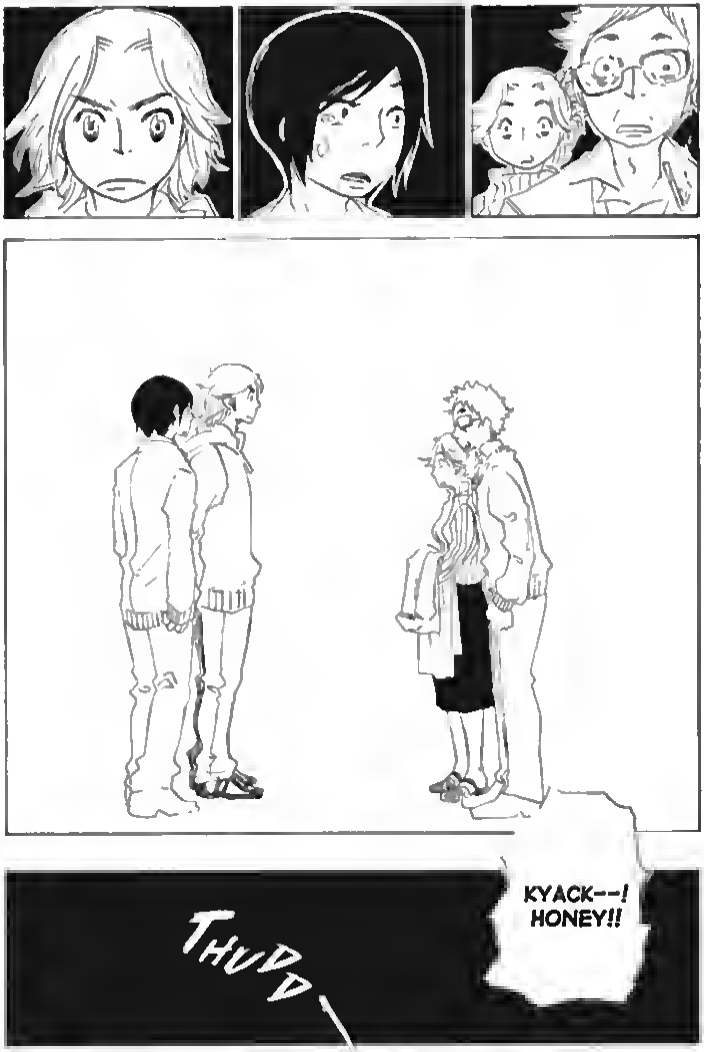
HUH?
HIRO?
OOH...
OOF...
SOB.
HIRO...
WHAT'S THE MATTER?
SHIBU-TANI..

I'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT THIS FOR SOME TIME NOW.
I'VE GOT TO BE WITH A MAN. THERE'S NO OTHER WAY AROUND IT.
BUT, YOU'RE DIFFERENT. YOU CAN MARRY A GIRL LIKE A NORMAL MAN AND HAVE A HAPPY FAMILY
YOU KNOW YOU HAVE SUCH A BEAUTIFUL FAMILY RIGHT IN THERE.
I CARE FOR HIM SO MUCH. WHAT NOW.
SO,
WHAT I'M SAYING IS...

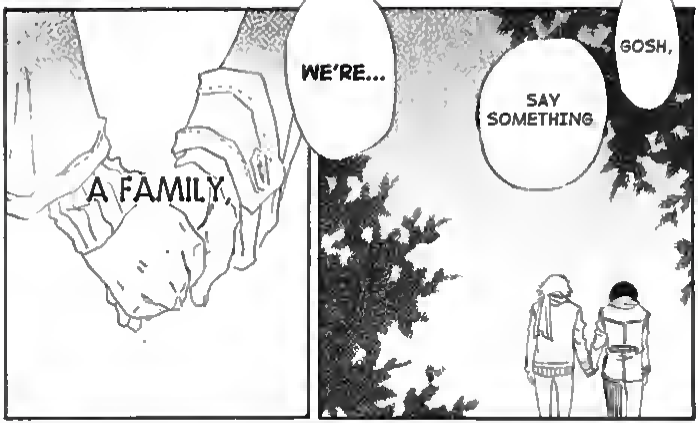
WHAT THE HELL IS THIS CRAZY TALK AFTER LIVING WITH ME FOR 3 FREAKING YEARS ALREADY?!
SOB.
OOH...
OOF...
SIGH
I...
HAVE NEVER WANTED TO MARRY YOU...
AS MUCH AS I DO TODAY.
COME HERE.

MOTHER.
OH?
SPEAKING OF THE DEVIL
FATHER.
IT'S OUR SON'S TURN NEXT.
SO IMPATIENT
GOOD-NESS --,
I'M SORRY I HAVEN'T TOLD YOU UNTIL NOW.

I'VE BEEN DATING THIS GUY ALL ALONG.
THE TRUTH IS...


KYACK--!
HONEY!!
THUDD

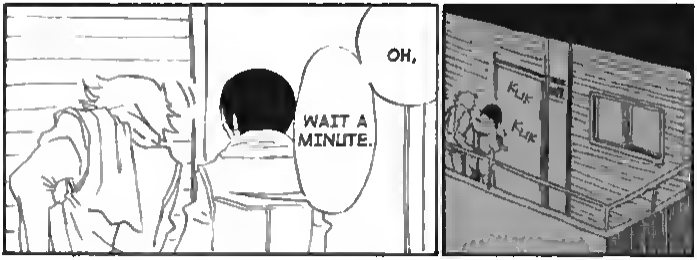
STOP CRYING
BUT..
I'M RELIEVED THAT THEY DIDN'T DISOWN ME.
COME BY THE HOUSE NEXT TIME THE BOTH OF YOU WE WILL AT LEAST LISTEN TO WHAT YOU HAVE TO SAY
YEAH, THAT'S A GOOD IDEA.
I...
I'LL GIVE MY FATHER A CALL TODAY.
SIGH...



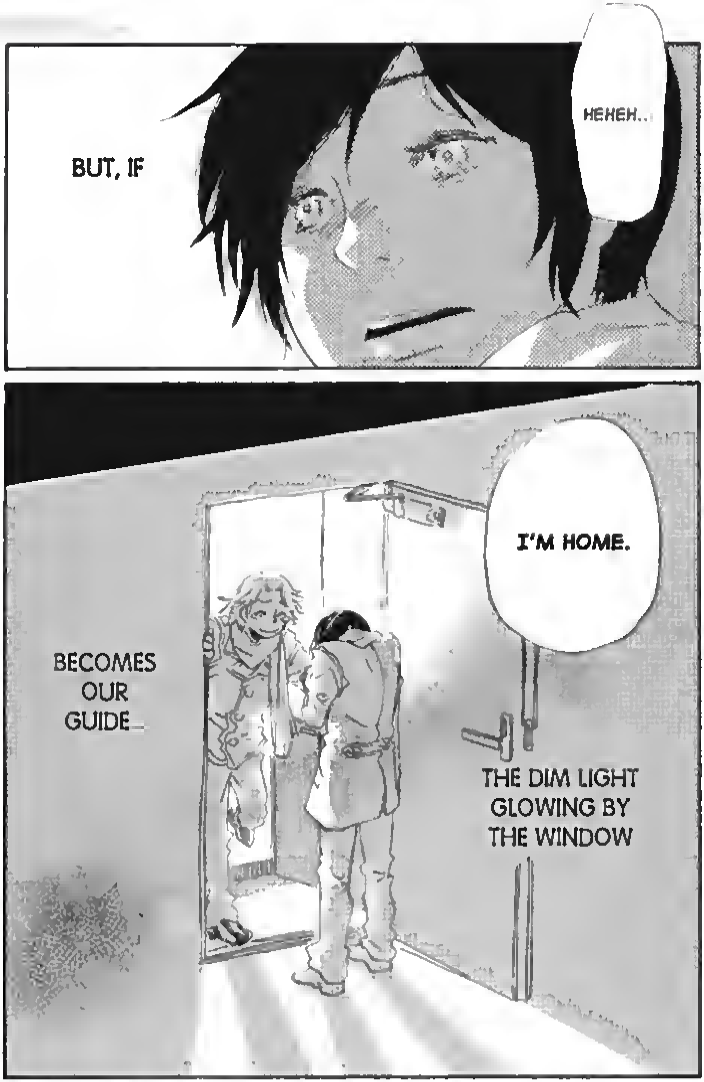
SO I'M SURE THERE WILL BE

LOADS OF HILLS TO CLIMB

IN THE DARK.

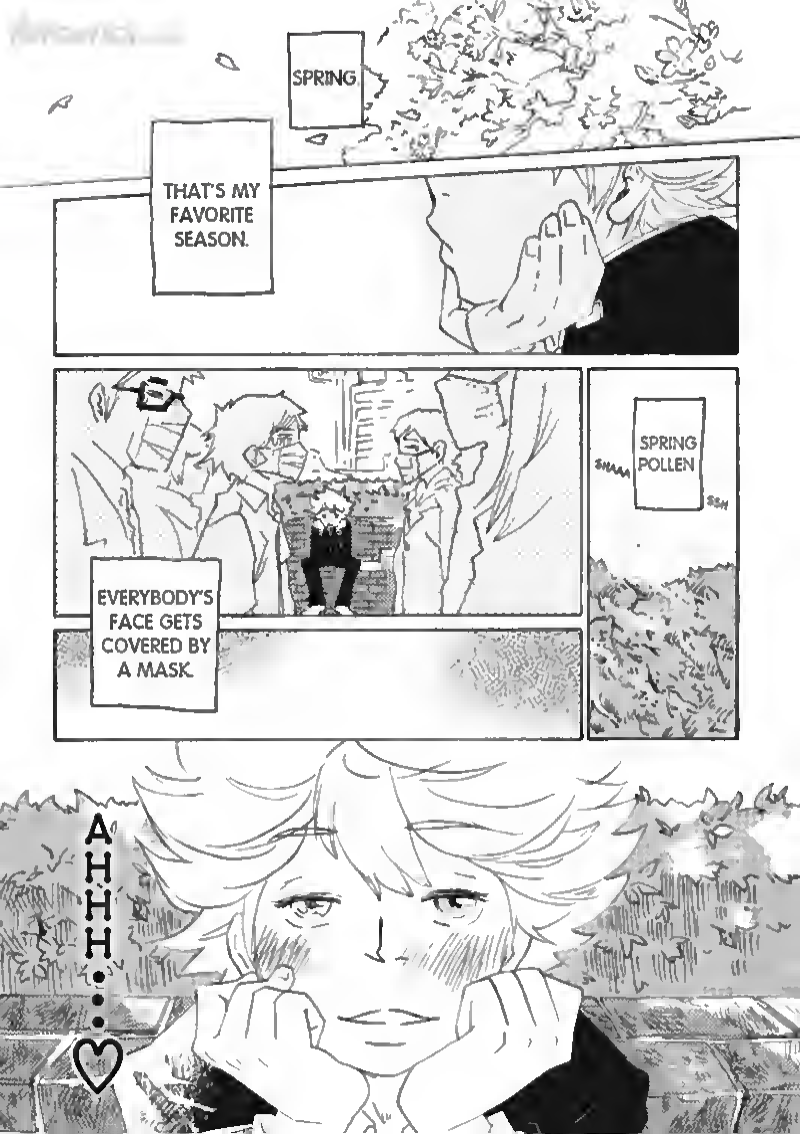


KWHAM
SQUEAK
KUK
KUK
KUK
WEL..
WELCOME HOME!



THE END OF *MERRY FAMILY PLAN.*

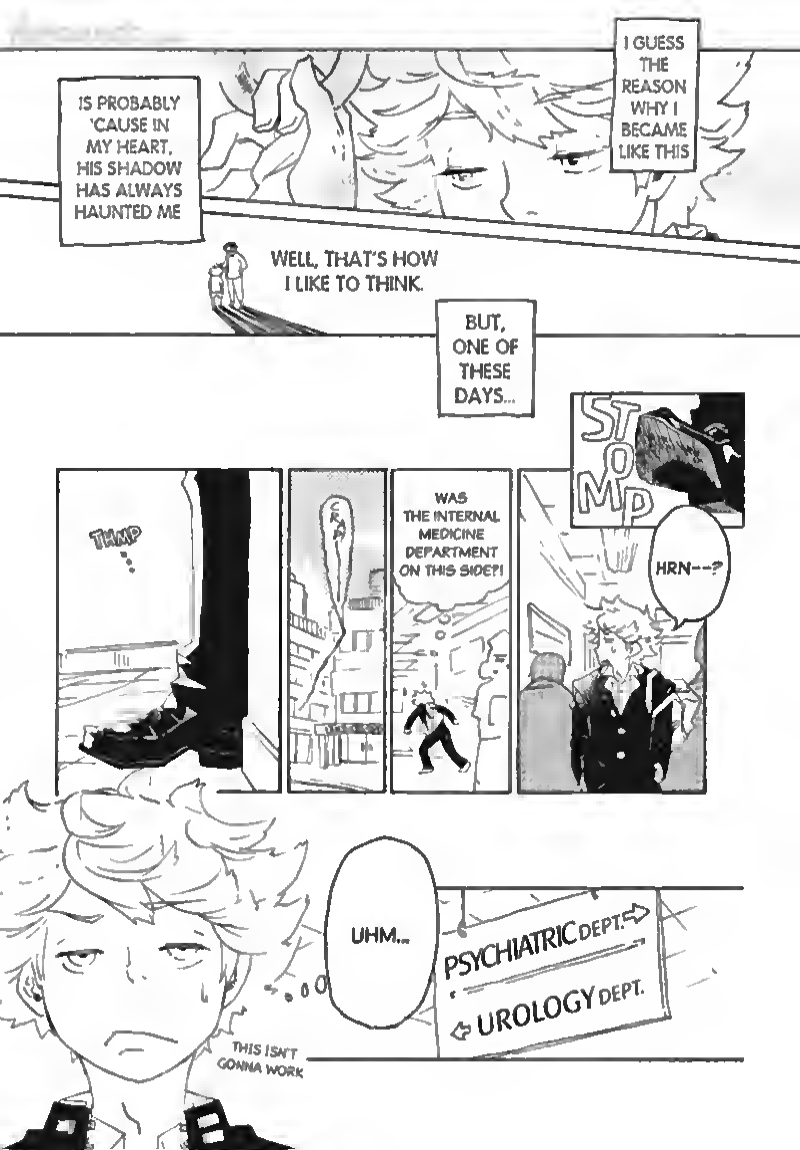
Sumitomo Morozumi
Merry Family Plan
NET COMICS


SPRING
THAT'S MY FAVORITE SEASON.
EVERYBODY'S FACE GETS COVERED BY A MASK.
SPRING POLLEN
SNIFF
SNIFF
AHHH...♡

I'M PROBABLY A PERVERT.
A SENIOR AT KOJIMA SHOTA HIGH.
THE SMILE UNDER THE MASK

NINJA
MY FA-VORITE JOB.
HOSPITAL (INTERNAL DEPT.)
MY #2 FAVORITE PLACE.
DEN-TIST'S OFFICE.
MY #1 FAVORITE PLACE.
I'M IMPRESSED TO SEE YOU VISIT EVERY MONTH REALLY
DON'T SPILL RICE.
I'LL TURN OFF MY DAD!
KEUKSEU MASK
THEY ALMOST DRIVE ME INSANE
I LIKE MASKS SO MUCH THAT
BUT
THERE'S NO ONE I CAN SHARE THIS KINDA STUFF WITH
EVEN IF THERE WAS, I COULDN'T SAY IT
DAMN I GOT A HARD-ON
CORRECTION IT DOESN'T THINK ANYMORE

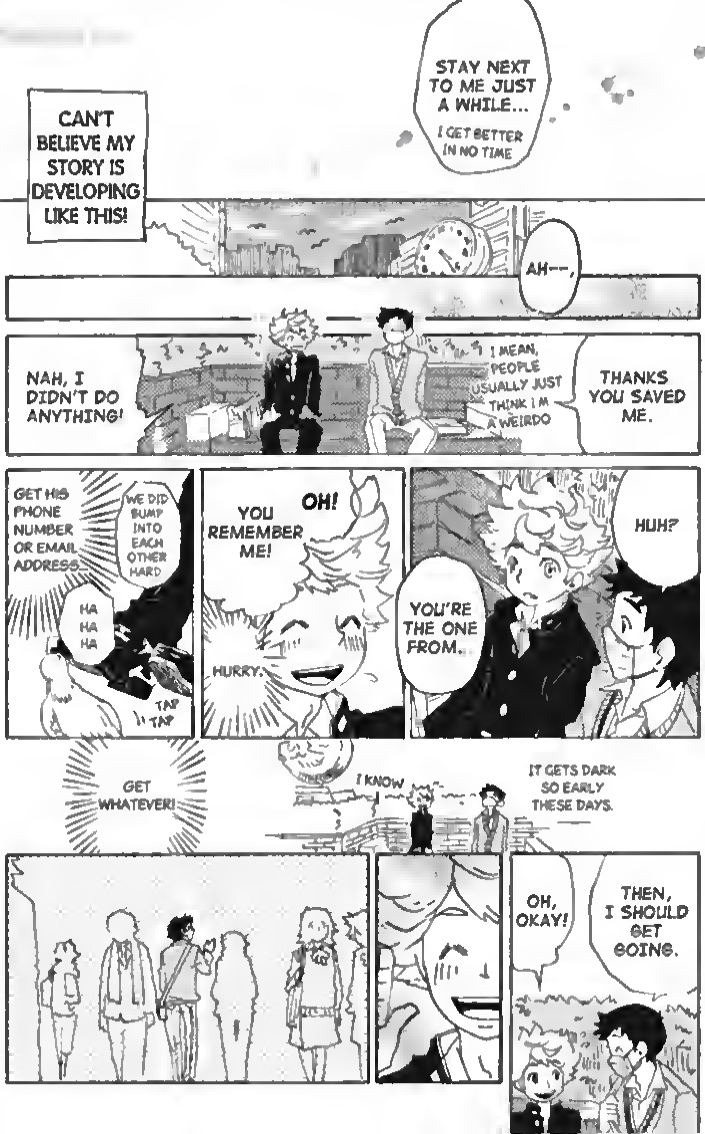
LONG TIME AGO,
WHEN I WAS IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL,
THERE WAS A DENTIST IN MY NEIGHBORHOOD THAT I LIKED.
HEY---, SHOTA!
HOOHOOHOO I FOUND ME A NEW HOSPITAL.
THAT GUY... DOESN'T HE TURN INTO A WEIRDO EVERY SPRING?
TELL ME ABOUT IT
KH W AM
SORRY, GOTTA GO SOME-WHERE ELSE!
OH!
THERE'S A NEW RAMEN PL...
SOCCER TEAM
MD CLUB'S ROOM
...HUH ?
LET'S GRAB SOMETHIN' AFTER SCHOOL.
C'MON LET'S GO EAT
BUT
THAT DENTIST DISAPPEARED INTO THIN AIR ONE DAY


I GUESS THE REASON WHY I BECAME LIKE THIS
IS PROBABLY 'CAUSE IN MY HEART, HIS SHADOW HAS ALWAYS HAUNTED ME
WELL, THAT'S HOW I LIKE TO THINK.
BUT, ONE OF THESE DAYS...
STOMP
HRN--?
THMP
WAS THE INTERNAL MEDICINE DEPARTMENT ON THIS SIDE?!
UHM...
PSYCHIATRIC DEPT.
UROLOGY DEPT.
THIS ISN'T GONNA WORK

OH, SORRY!
I'M SORRY!
WELL, I DID COME BY HERE TODAY JUST TO...
TRY IT OUT.
I'LL FIND SOMEONE WHO WILL ACCEPT ME EVEN THOUGH I'M THIS WAY
YOU ALRIGHT?
KUBA-SAN!
SORRY
OH, THEY'RE CALLING ME!
KUBA-SAN-
YES!
AH...

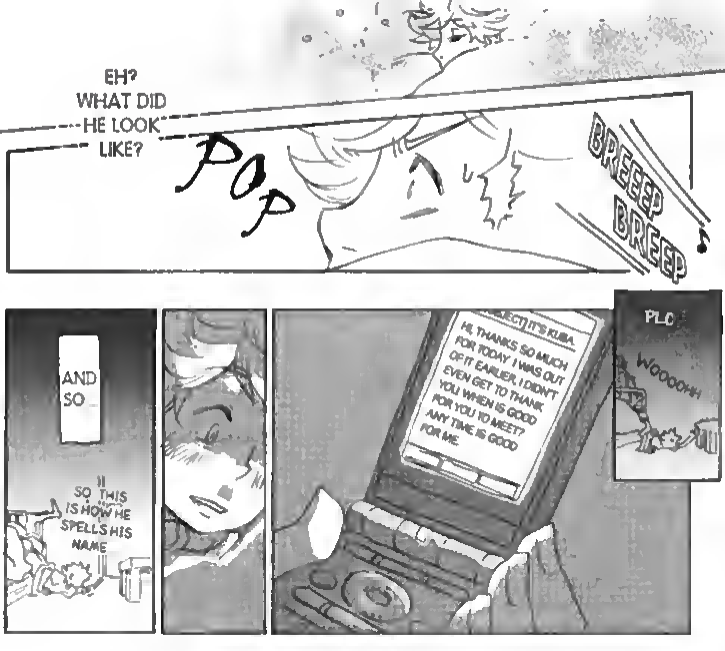
DING DONG
KUBA-SAN...
SOB
WHY DIDN'T I ASK HIM ANYTHING?
WHY DIDN'T I ASK HIM HIS NUMBER, OR ADDRESS, OR EMAIL?
I'M OFF.
KLACK!
I'M NOT GOING.
HEY, WHAT ABOUT THE CLUB?
HE'S SERIOUSLY NOT WELL
I'M SUCH A RETARD.
YEAH I'M THOROUGHLY AWARE OF THAT
THE CLASS IS OVER ALREADY.
LET'S HIT THE SOCCER CLUB
SHOT A.
IF THIS WERE A MOVIE.

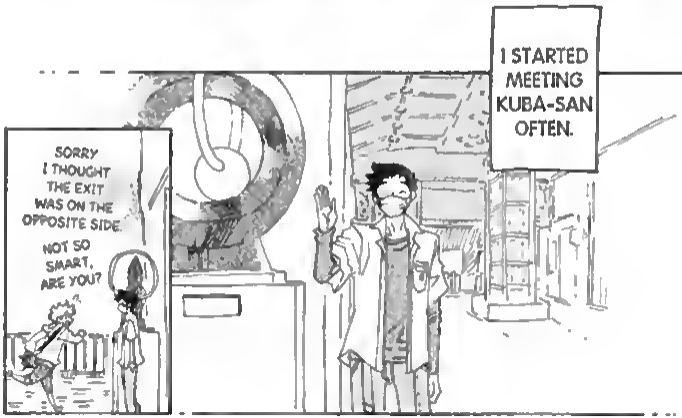
BOOM
REUNITE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE STREET WITH A THUNDEROUS CLIMAX MUSIC--
THE TWO PEOPLE WOULD ONCE AGAIN
ARE YOU OKAY?!
ARE...
BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN YOU SHOULD UE COLLAPSED ON THE STREET!
DO YOU WANNA AT LEAST GO TO THE HOSPITAL?
AH!
NO THIS ISN'T TIME FOR ADMIRING HOW BRILLIANTLY SHINING HIS FACE IS!
I'M ALRIGHT
TH... THANKS.
THEN...


CAN'T BELIEVE MY STORY IS DEVELOPING LIKE THIS!
STAY NEXT TO ME JUST A WHILE...
I GET BETTER IN NO TIME
AH--,
THANKS YOU SAVED ME.
I MEAN, PEOPLE USUALLY JUST THINK I'M A WEIRDO
NAH, I DIDN'T DO ANYTHING!
HUH?
YOU'RE THE ONE FROM..
OH!
YOU REMEMBER ME!
HURRY!
GET HIS PHONE NUMBER OR EMAIL ADDRESS.
WE DID BUMP INTO EACH OTHER HARD
HA HA HA
TAP TAP
GET WHATEVER!
I KNOW
IT GETS DARK SO EARLY THESE DAYS.
OH, OKAY!
THEN, I SHOULD GET GOING.

YOU MORON
UH...
UM--,
YOUR PHONE NUMBER...
IF IT'S ALRIGHT WITH YOU, I'D LIKE TO AT LEAST TREAT YOU TO DINNER ANOTHER TIME
YEAH,
YES!

LEAVE YOUR CELL PHONE IN YOUR ROOM WHEN YOU JOIN US FOR DINNER
GLARE
YOU SAY SOMETHING TO HIM TOO HONEY!
SHOTA ...
LET'S GO TO SLEEP. LET'S SLEEP.
SIGH---
TA DA DA DA
DON'T RUN!
FLASH
FLASH
YO! I DISCOVERED A FASCINATING WAY TO JERK OFF I'LL TELL YOU ABOUT IT YOU SHOULD TRY IT OUT IMMEDIATELY
SHUT UP.
POW
NII-CHAN!
KUBA
NO, NO
WHAT WAS MY DENTIST'S NAME?
OH, MR
I'M IMPRESSED
YOU CAME ALONE TODAY?
HIS NAME WAS KOBAYASHI
AHH, THAT'S RIGHT...
THEY DO HAVE A SIMILAR STYLE.


EH? WHAT DID HE LOOK LIKE?
POP
BREEP BREEP
AND SO
SO THIS IS HOW HE SPELLS HIS NAME
HI, THANKS SO MUCH FOR TODAY. I WAS OUT OF IT EARLIER. I DIDN'T EVEN GET TO THANK YOU. WHEN IS GOOD FOR YOU TO MEET? ANY TIME IS GOOD FOR ME.
PLO
WOOOOHH


I STARTED MEETING KUBA-SAN OFTEN.
SORRY I THOUGHT THE EXIT WAS ON THE OPPOSITE SIDE.
NOT SO SMART, ARE YOU?

WHOA THAT'S A GREAT SCHOOL
UNIVERSITY
YOU'RE SMART KUBA SAN WHERE DO YOU GO TO SCHOOL?
EVERY ONCE A WHILE, HE HELPED WITH MY STUDIES
ETC., ETC
WE WATCHED MOVIES, WENT SHOPPING, AND READ BOOKS.
THIS PORN NOVEL LOOKS HIGHLY TWISTED
KUBA-SAN
HE NEVER TAKES OFF HIS MASK WHEN HE'S IN A LARGE CROWD
WHY DON'T YOU ENROLL TOO, SHOTA?
HE SAID IT WAS BECAUSE
HA HA HA
NAH THAT'S BEYOND MY CAPABILITY
HE WAS SENSITIVE TO SMELL
WOW, REALLY?
MY CONDITION IMPROVED MUCH AFTER I BECAME FRIENDS WITH YOU.
EVEN SO,

BLUSH
AH...
DUB
I FEEL HAPPY FOR SOME REASON
I'M GONNA GO TAKE A LOOK OVER ON THAT SIDE
OKAY
...
...
OH, SORRY! YOUR...HEAD JUST SEEMS REALLY SMOOTH...
I MEANT YOUR HAIR NOT YOUR BRAIN
NO
M, NO PROBLEM! I GUESS ALL THOSE BRAIN GAMES I PLAY-IS PAYING OFF
SNIFF
I'D LIKE TO COME VISIT YOUR PLACE NEXT TIME, KUBA-SAN.

HMM ...
HUH?
THEN, WOULD YOU LIKE TO COME BY NOW?
UH, MY PLACE? THERE'S NOTHING TO SEE.
WELL, HOW SHOULD I PUT IT... I'M JUST CURIOUS.
IT'S A LITTLE MESSY.
201
KUBA KEICHI
SORRY, IT'S AN OLD APART-MENT.
DON'T BE NOT AT ALL!
EXCUSE ME
KUJI
COME ON IN.

YEAH.
HERE, CUSHION.
YOU SEE.
MY ROOMMATE MOVED OUT NOT TOO LONG AGO.
IT'S PRETTY BIG.
I HAVE A CONDITION, AND IT CAN BE A PROBLEM.
DRRRIP
IT BEGAN JUST AS I STARTED LIVING ALONE.
HA HA HA
CLATTER
UM...
HE'S PROBABLY JUST FEELING LONELY
WANNA WATCH SOME TV?
SHOTA, GREEN TEA'S GOOD ENOUGH, RIGHT?
KUBA-SAN.

WHAT?
YOU WON'T BE LONELY
IF I STAY WITH YOU, KUBA-SAN.
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
GRAB
I...

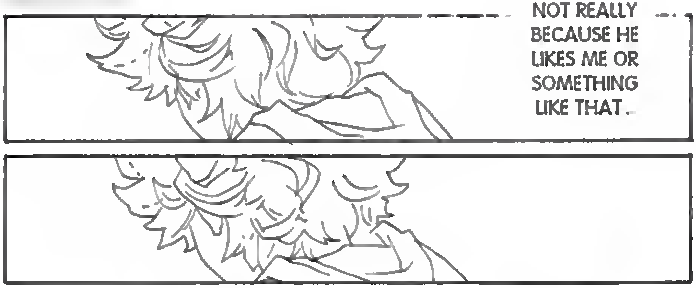
WHAT...
SQUEEEEZE
SQUEEZE
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

KUBA-SAN,
I CAN'T BREATHE.

GASP!

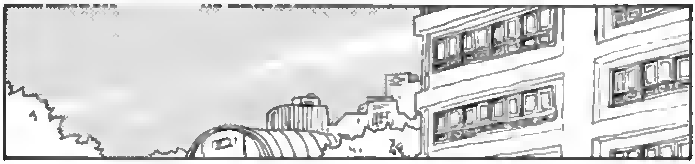
THAT'S WHAT I TH--
HUH?

ACK--!
THUMP
SORRY,
PLEASE LEAVE.
THE REASON HE PULLED THAT SHIT IS BECAUSE HE'S LONELY.
STOMP
STOMP
HE'S LONELY.
KUSAKEKO



I THOUGHT OF KUBA-SAN AS A REPLACEMENT FOR MY DENTIST, TOO.

NO.



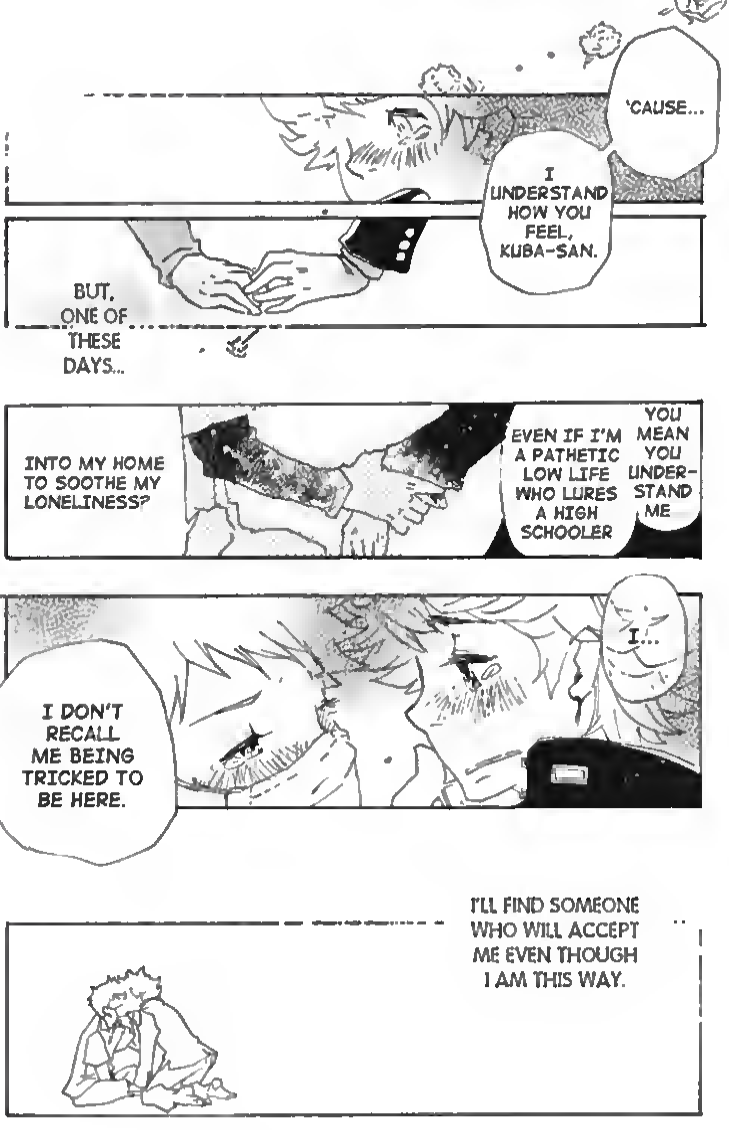
[SUBJECT] SORRY
I'M SORRY ABOUT YESTERDAY LET'S NOT MEET AGAIN.
STILL, IT'S NOT TIME YET!
HUFF
HUFF
NO.
LET ME BORROW THAT A WHILE.
DID YOU WATCH TV YESTERDAY?
NO!
HUFF
HUFF
OUR STORY HASN'T EVEN BEGUN!!
BUT...!
KUBA-SAN.
K-WHAM
YOU'RE SAYING IT'S OVER AT YOUR WHIM? I WON'T ACCEPT THAT!

BUT I...
PLEASE DON'T RUN AWAY.
I HAVE...
KLIK...
KUBA-SAN...
WH
CONK
PST
AP
PLOP
GRIP
EACK

NO...

I'M NOT!
BUT ...
YOU'RE GOING TO HATE ME.
201
KUBA KEI
YOU'LL GROW SICK AND TIRED OF MY SEXUAL DEVIANCE SOME DAY.
THEN, YOU'LL DISAPPEAR ON ME AFTER SPOUTING OFF SOME ABUSIVE WORDS.
I AM A PERVERT WHO LOVES SNIFFING BODY ODOR, AFTER ALL.
IT'S INEVI-TABLE...
MY PANTS ARE GETTING TIGHT

I HAVE A MASK FETISH!
WHAT ABOUT IT?
WHAAAAT
N..NO WONDER WE WERE GETTING ALONG SO WELL
I'M NOT LEAVING !!
HA!
THEN, YOU'RE GONNA LEAVE ME IF I TAKE OFF MY MASK, HUH?
NONCHALANT


'CAUSE...
I UNDERSTAND HOW YOU FEEL, KUBA-SAN.
BUT, ONE OF THESE DAYS...
INTO MY HOME TO SOOTHE MY LONELINESS?
EVEN IF I'M A PATHETIC LOW LIFE WHO LURES A HIGH SCHOOLER
YOU MEAN YOU UNDER-STAND ME
I...
I DON'T RECALL ME BEING TRICKED TO BE HERE.
I'LL FIND SOMEONE WHO WILL ACCEPT ME EVEN THOUGH I AM THIS WAY.

I...
LIKE YOU, KUBA-SAN.
SORRY, I'M HARD NOW
IT'S EMBAR-RASSING.
DON'T LOOK AT ME LIKE THAT.
LONG TIME AGO...

MY UNCLE WORKED AS A DENTIST IN THIS AREA.
HUH?
MAYBE IT WAS ABOUT 8 YEARS AGO?
WHAT THE...
SO.. I GUESS YOU CAN SAY HE GOT BOOTED...
BUT, THEY CAUGHT HIM MOLESTING AN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL KID.
AND THEN LATER HE DISAPPEARED ON HIS OWN.
HRN?
IT'S IN THE BLOOD
MAY-BE...
I'M THINKING ...
I'M MOLESTING A KID IN HIGH SCHOOL NOW, TOO
AH HA HA HA HA
NAH --.
FREAKY --!
HUH ?
YOU KNOW HIM?
TH... THAT GUY, WASN'T HIS NAME KOBA-YASHI?
CAUSE AND EFFECT
I SEE YOU'RE A GOOD BOY

THAT MEANS YOU WON'T TELL ANYONE
YOU ARE A GOOD BOY
I WAS WONDERING WHAT MIGHT HAVE HAPPENED...
YEAH.
NO...
WANT SOME TEA?
WHAT'S WRONG?
YOU TRULY ARE A PERV, SHOTA.
WHOA.
IF I HAD BEEN THE ONE MOLESTED.
THAT'S FOR YOU TO SAY, KUBA-SAN!
HAHA.
YOU'RE RIGHT.

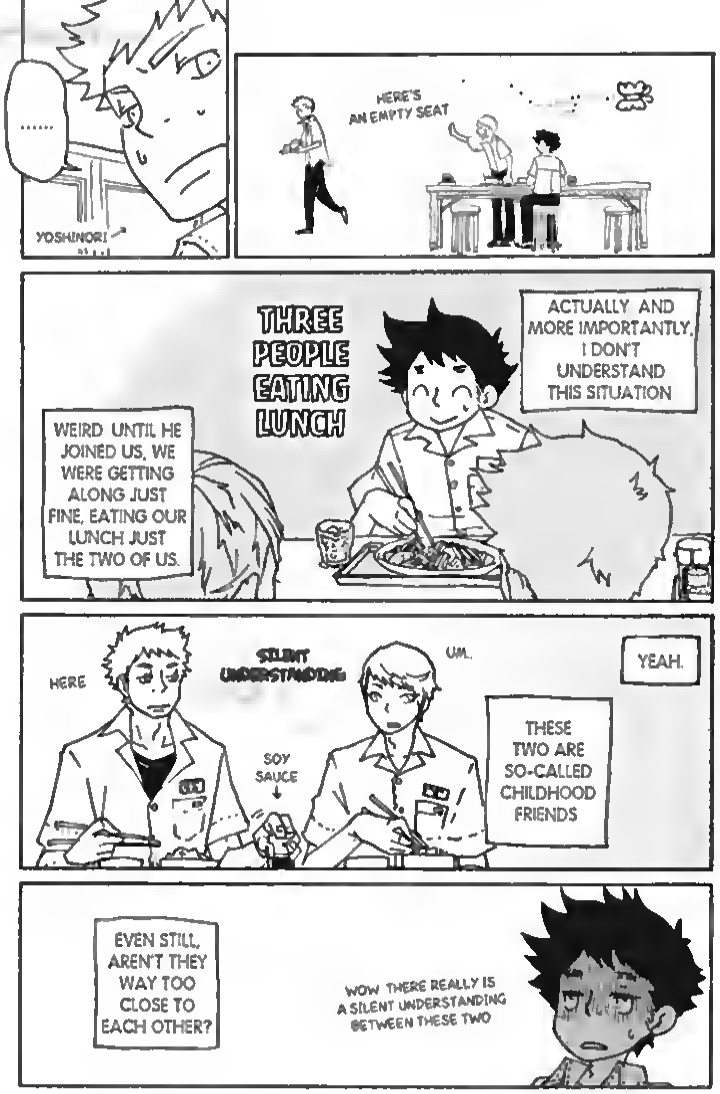
I REMEMBERED HIS SMILE.
COME BACK AGAIN
OUT OF NO WHERE.
THE SMILE UNDER THE MASK.
IT WAS SURPRISINGLY SIMILAR TO KUBA-SAN'S.
NOTHING. I JUST THOUGHT YOU WERE GOOD-LOOKING
WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING AT?
SHOTA, I TOLD YOU AGAIN AND AGAIN TO COME WITHOUT SHOWERING!
SAME FOR THIS GUY
W WAIT I WANT YOU TO PUT THIS ON WHILE WE
MURK
THEY HAVEN'T GOTTEN BETTER AT ALL.
WAS MY SEXUAL DEVIANCY FIXED
AFTER ALL THIS TIME?

THE END OF *THE SMILE UNDER THE MASK.*

Sumitomo Morozumi
Merry Family Plan
NET COMICS

I DON'T HAVE ANY SUCH THINGS AS
CHILD-HOOD FRIENDS.
I MEAN, I DON'T REALLY...
ROAR
ROAR
I'M A TOTAL BUM THIS MONTH
LOOK AT THOSE TWO OVER THERE THEY'VE BEEN AT IT LIKE THAT FOR 5 MINUTES NOW
GET WHAT THAT MEANS.
SUCH A PRETTY FACE... DOESN'T EVEN LOOK HUMAN
GASP
NOT RE-ALLY.
YO...
YOSHI-NORI...!

A SILENT UNDERSTANDING


.....
YOSHINORI
HERE'S AN EMPTY SEAT
THREE PEOPLE EATING LUNCH
WEIRD UNTIL HE JOINED US, WE WERE GETTING ALONG JUST FINE, EATING OUR LUNCH JUST THE TWO OF US.
ACTUALLY AND MORE IMPORTANTLY, I DON'T UNDERSTAND THIS SITUATION
HERE
SILENT UNDERSTANDING
SOY SAUCE
UM.
YEAH.
THESE TWO ARE SO-CALLED CHILDHOOD FRIENDS
EVEN STILL, AREN'T THEY WAY TOO CLOSE TO EACH OTHER?
WOW THERE REALLY IS A SILENT UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THESE TWO

I'M GOING OUT WITH ONE OF THEM:
MAYU-ZUMI YOSHIO. [I THINK.]
I LIKE YOU!
YO-SHIO
LIBRARY
FLASH-BACK
WHAT? OH, OKAY?
DOES HE EVEN KNOW WHAT THAT MEANS?
HEH
WHAT? OH, OKAY...
GO OUT WITH ME!
WHAT? OH, OKAY!!
YOU ALRIGHT? YOU LOOK LIKE SHIT
I'M GONNA GET OUTTA HERE AS SOON AS I FINISH EATING, SO YOU...
GASP
FUJI.
IN A LOW VOICE

AH...
I'M GONNA GET GOING NOW. GOTTA HURRY OVER TO MY NEXT CLASS!
KAP WING
GLATTER
GLATTER
THAT'S FINE! OH, I FORGOT!
CLONK
WHAT DO YOU MEAN 'AH'?
BAD
BEFORE WONDERING WHETHER OR NOT YOSHIO AND I ARE DATING...
I HAVE A FEELING THAT OUR COMMUNI-CATION
SNIFF
SOB
ISN'T WORKING OUT WELL.
CRRIIICK
CRRIIICK
CRICK CRICK CRICK CRICK
THAT'S JUST TORTURE.

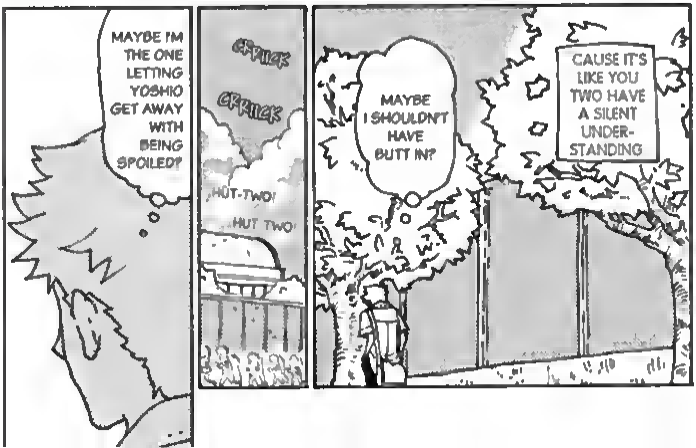
RELAX
GO
HEY, DUDE, IF YOU TWO ARE AN ITEM YOU OUGHTA BE MORE DOWN WITH FUJI.
FLIP
BY THE WAY,
IT'S PROBABLY SOMETHING I GET ALL THE TIME ANYWAY
EH, I'M OKAY
YOSHIO, WOULD YOU LIKE SOME SNACK?
(YOSHINORI'S MOM)
SURE THANK YOU
I AIN'T GETTIN A GOOD VIBE
I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO
I DUNNO
WHEN WE'RE ALONE ...
LUB DUB
I LIKE YOU
KENJI
WE CAN'T CARRY ON A CONVERSATION.
PLUS...

FLIK
MUMBLE
I MEAN ...
YOU WANNA DO THINGS... I MEAN, YOU ACTUALLY DO THINGS.
NO, I WANT TO DO THINGS
YOU KNOW HOW IF YOU LIKE SOME-ONE...
AH--,
YEAH, OKAY.
I GET IT
WHENEVER THAT LITTLE KID COMES BY EVERY WEEK TO BORROW A BOOK,
ISN'T IT OKAY? EVEN IF IT'S BETWEEN TWO GUYS?
HE JUST LOOKS SO CUTE TO ME
COME ON, STOP MAKING THAT TEARY-EYED FACE.
BEAUTIFUL FRIENDSHIP
YOU'RE REALLY A GOOD GUY!
DROOL
DROOL
YOU THINK IT'LL BE OKAY?!
AS LONG AS THEY LOVE EACH OTHER.
MAN YOU'RE FUGLY
WAHHH...
SO MEAN!
YOU MADE YOSHI CRY AGAIN, DIDN'T I, YOU?
WAHH
YEAH ☆
YOU'VE GOT NOTHING BUT GOOD LOOKS, AFTER ALL.

I DID SOMETHING ...
LET'S SAY...
BUT,
BISCUIT
I JUST CAN'T
AND FUJI HATED ME FOR IT.
JUST THINKING ABOUT IT SCARES ME.
CONTROL MYSELF
HUH?

HE'S TINY
(SAME GRADE)
AH... I'LL WAIT FOR HIM.
YOSHIO'S NOT HERE YET.
THE TEACHER ASKED FOR HIM.
YIKES
DROOP
.....
WISH HE TOLD ME THAT.
CRRRICK
CRRRICK
CRACK CRACK CRACK
YOSHIO'S ACTING LIKE A CUTE BABY BEING SPOILED BY YOU.
SPOILED? BABY?
RUB
RUB
FLICK
I'M GONNA KILL YA

UGH
LUBDUB
YOSHI-NORI.
LUBDUB
YOU KNOW EVERY-THING ABOUT YOSHIO,
LOOKS LIKE HE REALLY DIES YOU.
BE NICE TO HIM. HE'S NOT GOOD AT OPENING UP TO PEOPLE.
NO, I MEAN ...
I'M KINDA ENVIOUS OF YOU.


MAYBE I'M THE ONE LETTING YOSHIO GET AWAY WITH BEING SPOILED?
CRRRACK
CRRRACK
HUT-TWO!
HUT TWO!
MAYBE I SHOULDN'T HAVE BUTT IN?
CAUSE IT'S LIKE YOU TWO HAVE A SILENT UNDER-STANDING

YOU WAITED LONG, HUH?
PUTTING ON SHOES
SORRY FOR MAKING YOU WAIT.
FLINCH
OH, IF YOU'RE WONDERING ABOUT YOSHINORI, HE LEFT FIRST A LITTLE BIT AGO.
OH, YEAH?
WHPL
BUT, IT WOULD'VE BEEN COOL IF YOU TOLD ME!
(1 HOUR)
NO WAY!
SORRY
YOSHIO EMPHASIZED THAT PART!
'KAY...
THIS KID HEAD HOME.
TH, THEN, LET'S...
AH...
SUMMER BREAK'S COMING UP SOON
...
..

...
...
AH HA HA HA
BRUSH
BRUSH
NO, NO WHERE
ARE YOU GONNA GO SOME-WHERE?
OH, THAT'S RIGHT.
UGH, I THINK I'M GONNA DIE...
WHAT ?!
BLUSH
UH... UM... CAN I HOLD YOUR HAND?
SO CUTE
YEAH.
CRRRICK
CRRRICK
.....

I EVEN ENDED UP CLASPING MY FINGERS...
OVER HIS. ALL BECAUSE I WAS SO NERVOUS
THROB THROB
PLUS...
IT'S DANGEROUS!
ARGH, MY SWEAT!
DRIP
LUBDUB LUBDUB
LUBDUB LUBDUB LUBDUB
STIR
AH
EEACK!
A WHIRLWIND OF ALL SORTS OF EMOTIONS
I...
I'M SWEATING A LOT.
GROSS, HUH?
WIPE
WIPE
WIPE
UH, SORRY.
NO.
THWAK

PLUS, WE'RE ALREADY AT THE STATION.
AND THERE ARE TOO MANY PEEPS
I'VE NEVER SEEN THAT LOOK ON HIS FACE.
IT'S NOT GROSS
WELL, THEN ..
SEE YOU TOMOR-ROW.
MY EXPRESS TRAIN'S HERE.
HOT. BURNING HOT.
MY HAND IS..
DRENCHED
KLATTER
KLATTER
BYE-BYE
HAH ...
HA ..
HUKK

HAAA...
HUKK.
HA...
YO...
RUB
RUB
RUB
RUB
HAH
HA
AHH...
HA
HA
HAH
FANTASY
YO-SHIO.
YO-SHIO
YO-SHIO...

I SHOULDN'T BE IMAGINING THIS!
YOU'RE BIG, YOSHI-
FLINCH
FLINCH
NO! DOWN WITH THIS IMAGE IN MY HEAD!
LIKE
HI.
DON'T KNOW - THIS PART WELL. MY IMAGINATION IS BEING SKETCHY
HUH?
AH!
AH!
YO-SHI...
SCENT OF YOUTHFUL DAYS
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
WHY THE HELL DID THEY HAVE TO BE CHILD-HOOD BUDDIES?
A NEW KINDA CURSE!
THIS IS A CURSE
DROOP
DROOP
DROOP
BEEP
BEEP...
YOSHIO, BETWEEN ME AND YOSHINORI, WHO DO YOU
...
IN SUM,

MANLY AURA
A SILENT UNDER-STANDING IS.
I'M OUTTA MY MIND! I'M BEING SUCH A GIRL! THIS IS BULLSHIT!
WHOOSH
NO, NO, NO. THIS IS NOT IT. I CAN'T DO THIS.
NO MORE THAN A CUMULATIVE RESULT OF THE OTHER PERSON'S BEHAVIOR AND REASONING PATTERN. THEREFORE... (EQUIPPED WITH THEORY)
IT'S JUST AN ACCUMU-LATION OF TIME.
HOW COME HE DOESN'T HAVE A GIRLFRIEND, THOUGH?
THERE'S NO CHANCE I'D WIN EVEN IF WE COMPETE.
I LOSE.
BEEP BEEP BEEP BEEP BEEP BEEP
FLINCH
IF THAT'S TRUE...
MESSAGE ALERT
WOW
WHOA
THIS WEEKEND, FUJI?
CAN I HANG OUT AT YOUR PLACE
STRANGE EMOTICON

JR SHINCHO STATION WEST EXIT
YEAH.
THERE'S A TURNSTILE AT THE WEST SIDE EXIT.
YEAH, OKAY
THEN, MAYBE I ALSO COULD..?
WOW-, HE'S IN REGULAR CLOTHES
SORRY DID I MAKE YOU WAIT?
NO
VROOM
WE HAVE TO TAKE A BUS FROM HERE
OH MY, SHIRO.
I'M HOME.

HELLO I HOPE IT'S OKAY FOR ME TO BE HERE.
BOW
SPARKLE
IT'S SHI RO
GOODNESS, YOU'VE BROUGHT A FINE-LOOKING FRIEND.
THERE'S NOTHING IN THE FRIDGE
YOU SHOULD HAVE TOLD ME YOUR FRIEND WAS VISITING.
NO WORRIES WE'RE GOING TO MCDONALD'S.
SHI-RO
HOHOHO STAY AS LONG AS YOU WANT SWEETIE
THAT'S SEXUAL HARASS-MENT!
STOP IT, MOM.
S, STOP IT--!
HE SMILED
CRRRICK CRICK
AH.
PBT BT.
AH
SHE CALLED YOU SHIRO, HUH?
CAN I CALL YOU SHIRO, TOO? IT'S CUTE
OKAY, MOM.
I'M OFF TO WORK--.
HUH?
AW, AL-RIGHT.
IF YOU SAY YOU HATE IT, SHIRO.
KBLOOM
SHIRO.
KYACK
STOP NOW, SERIOUSLY!!

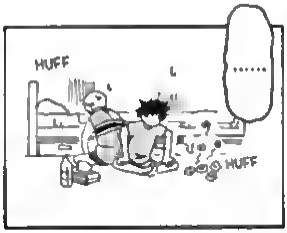
LUB DUB LUB DUB LUB DUB
IF YOU DON'T LIKE SHIRO ...
UM
SO, UM ...
UH
SILENCE
HUH ??
I CAN CALL YOU.
SHI, SHIRO?
THUTHUMP

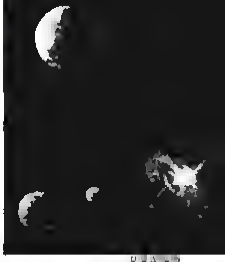
THAT ...

N... NO.
SOME-THING LIKE THIS. YOU DIDN'T, YOSHIO?
I.. I ALWAYS THOUGHT GOING OUT WITH SOMEONE MEANT...
WHAT AM I DOING?!
WHAT AM I ?!
WHAT. WHAT. WHAT. WHAT.
MMF!

HRN? AM I NOT SUPPOSED TO BE ON TOP?
DAZED
THUD...
TOO LATE NOW
CAN'T CONTROL MY BODY!
YO-SHIO ...
WHEN YOU CARE ABOUT SOMEONE
SHIRO...
YOU LOSE CONTROL OVER YOURSELF
WHEN YOU MAKE A FACE LIKE THAT.
AND LIKE THIS.
NO, MAYBE THAT DOESN'T MATTER ANYMORE...
HA
OKAY
I'M GONNA TOUCH YOU, TOO
YEAH
HAHH...
HUFF
TOUCH YOU, YO-SHIO?
CAN I...
HUFF
YOUR HEART OVER-FLOWS
THAT'S WHAT I'M AFRAID OF.

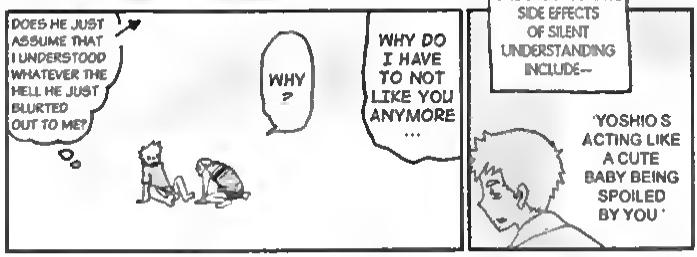
SORRY
...
SOR..


HUFF
.....
HUFF

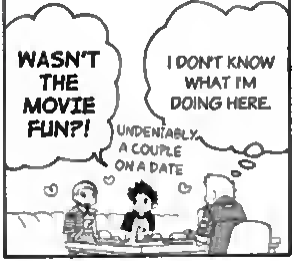


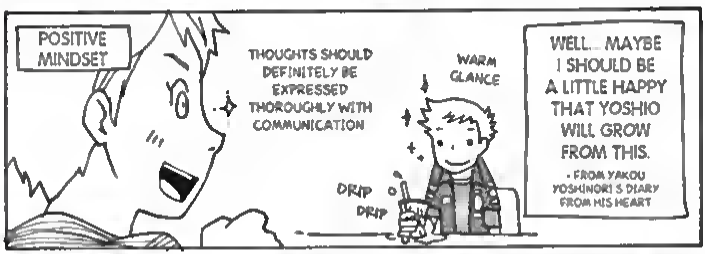
THAT EXPRESSION ON
S NO JOKE
WHA... WHAAAT?!
HUH?!
WHAT D'YOU SAY?!
IT'S OKAY I'LL UNDERSTAND EVEN IF YOU SAY YOU DON'T LIKE ME ANYMORE.
WAHH
HEY, HOW CAN YOU APOLOGIZE NOW?! IT MAKES THINGS AWKWARD BETWEEN US!

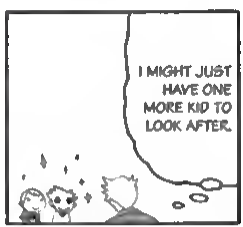
GRRR
NEWS TO FUJI
WHAT?
I ALREADY LIKED YOU AS MUCH AS ANYONE CAN LIKE ANOTHER PERSON EVEN BEFORE YOU TOLD ME HOW YOU FELT ABOUT ME. SO, WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?!!!
(UNCLEAR AS TO WHAT YOSHIO REALLY MEANS.)


DOES HE JUST ASSUME THAT I UNDERSTOOD WHATEVER THE HELL HE JUST BLURTED OUT TO ME?
WHY?
WHY DO I HAVE TO NOT LIKE YOU ANYMORE ...
THE UNFORTUNATE SIDE EFFECTS OF SILENT UNDERSTANDING INCLUDE--
'YOSHIO S ACTING LIKE A CUTE BABY BEING SPOILED BY YOU'

HAAH
--.
I'M NOT YOSHI-NORI.
UM...
SO, I'M NOT A MIND READER OR ANYTHING.
BEING UNABLE TO PASS THAT LINE OF INTIMACY AND STUFF WITH THAT PERSON.
SORRY.
YEAH.
IF YOU DON'T SPELL THINGS OUT, I WON'T GET IT.
YOU BECOME A BIT DETACHED LIKE A FATHER OR SOME OTHER SUCH RELATIVE.
BE NICE TO HIM.
YEAH.
I LIKE YOU.
JUST LIKE ANY NORMAL MEMBER OF THE FAMILY.
...

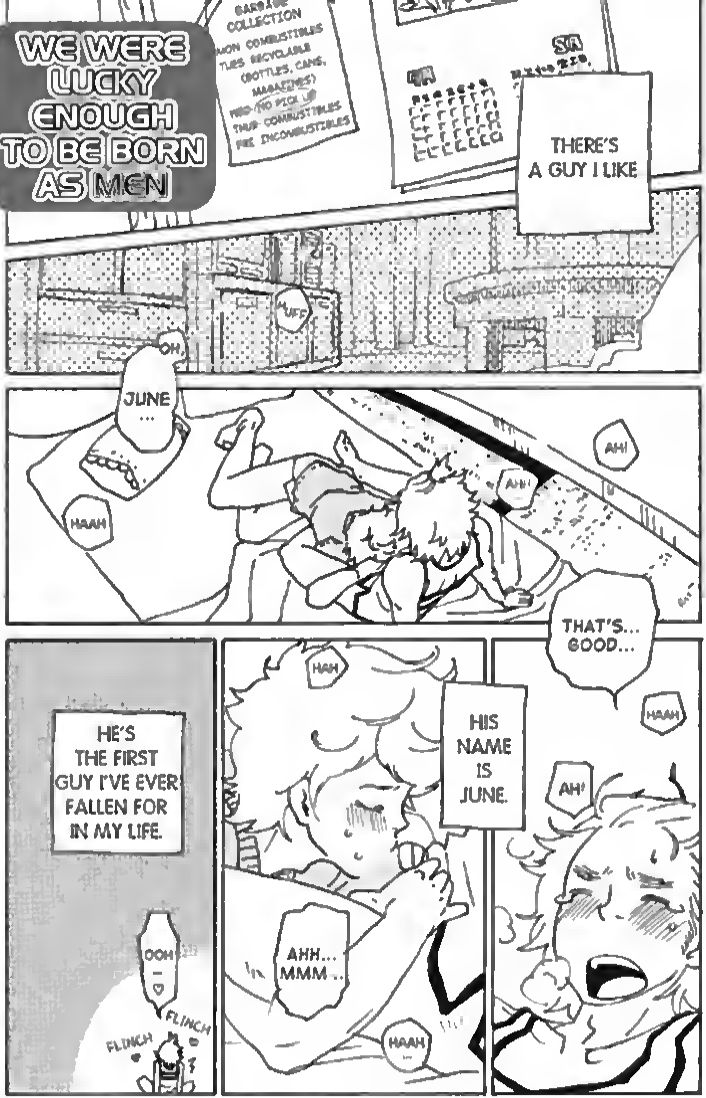


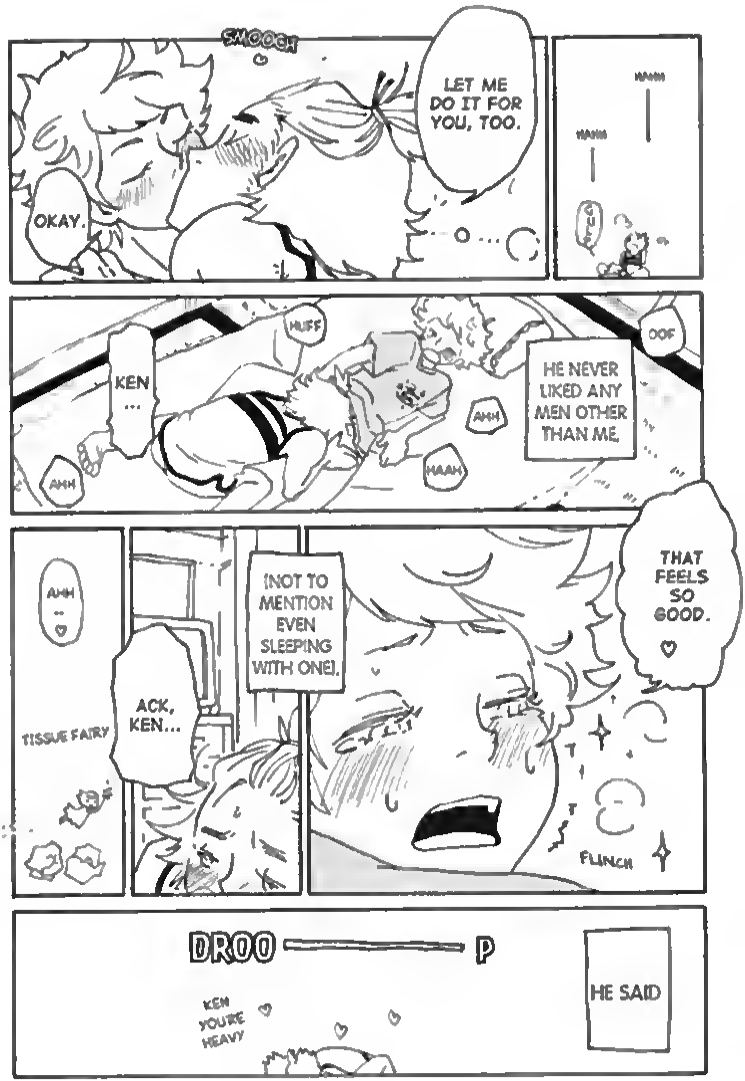

POSITIVE MINDSET
THOUGHTS SHOULD DEFINITELY BE EXPRESSED THOROUGHLY WITH COMMUNICATION
WARM GLANCE
DRIP DRIP
WELL... MAYBE I SHOULD BE A LITTLE HAPPY THAT YOSHIO WILL GROW FROM THIS.
- FROM YAKOU YOSHINORI'S DIARY FROM HIS HEART



THE END OF *A SILENT UNDERSTANDING.*

Sumitomo Morozumi
Merry Family Plan
NET COMICS


WE WERE LUCKY ENOUGH TO BE BORN AS MEN
GARBAGE COLLECTION
MON COMBUSTIBLES
TUES RECYCLABLE (BOTTLES, CANS, MAGAZINES)
WED-(NO PICK UP)
THUR COMBUSTIBLES
FRI INCOMBUSTIBLES
SUN
THERE'S A GUY I LIKE
HUFF
OH
JUNE ...
HAAH
AH!
AH!
THAT'S... GOOD...
HAAH
AH!
HIS NAME IS JUNE.
HAH
AHH... MMM ..
HAAH ...
HE'S THE FIRST GUY I'VE EVER FALLEN FOR IN MY LIFE.
OOH
FLINCH
FLINCH


SMOOCH
LET ME DO IT FOR YOU, TOO.
OKAY.
HAHH
HAHH
CLICK
HUFF
KEN ...
AHH
AHH
HAAH
HE NEVER LIKED ANY MEN OTHER THAN ME.
OOF
AHH ♡
TISSUE FAIRY
ACK, KEN...
(NOT TO MENTION EVEN SLEEPING WITH ONE).
THAT FEELS SO GOOD. ♡
FLINCH
DROOOOOOOOOOOP
KEN YOU'RE HEAVY
HE SAID

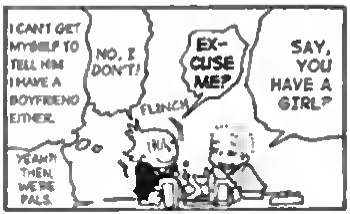
ON TOP OF THAT, I THINK YOU'RE MUCH CUTER, KEN!
THAT'S I DON'T KNOW...
PEOPLE GENERALLY SAY THAT?
I DON'T LIKE IT WHEN PEOPLE CALL ME CUTE!
YEAH, I'M NOT TALL LIKE YOU, KEN!
WHR
158cm
188cm
OH YEAH,
YOU'RE REALLY CUTE, JUNE.
ALL FLUSHED
AS FAR AS THE DEFINITION GOES,
MAN-, I FORGOT I HAD HOMEWORK. TOO HOW DEPRESSING!
OKAY, COME ON GO OVER TO YOUR ROOM I HAVE TO FINISH MY PAPER
DROOP
CHOP, CHOP GET UP!
WE HAVEN'T HAD SEX TOGETHER.
NAH-, HOLD ME, KEN-.
ALL THE MORE REASON FOR YOU TO MOVE YOUR BUTT THERE
AHH...
YOU PEST!!
IF WE'RE TALKING ABOUT INTERCOURSE
DRAG
DRAG

I DON'T LIKE CURRY!
DON'T BE SO DIFFICULT
I'LL MAKE SOME CURRY
GO AHEAD AND HAVE DINNER WITHOUT ME.
I HAVE A COMPANY DINNER AT MY PART-TIME JOB AFTER CLASS TOMORROW, SO I MIGHT BE LATE.
COMING HOME.
ASSIGNED TO COOK
I PREFER STEW.
NOD
CHOP
SLICE
SLICE
TAK
TAK
EVEN THOUGH NEITHER OF US MENTIONS IT.
Z...
BOTH ME AND JUNE
SLICE
SLICE
TAK
WE BOTH LACK THE GUTS TO TAKE THE FINAL PLUNGE.

SQUEAK
I ENDED UP DOING NOTHIN YESTERDAY
SQUEAK
WHO?
DUN NO
WHAT --?
A JUNIOR FROM THE DESIGN DEPARTMENT IS ASKING FOR YOU.
JUNE.
WHAT'S UPP
OH. DO YOU HAVE A MINUTE?
I WANNA TALK TO YOU ABOUT SOMETHING

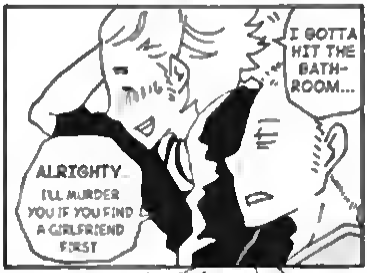
EEP
KWHAM
OH, BOY...
HE'S GOT A WEIRD HOBBY
WHAT'S THIS FIGURINE? IS THIS KERO KERO-KUN?
JUNE'S DESK
KERO KERO
I'M GOING HOME, 'CAUSE I'M NOT FEELING WELL!
WHOOSH
TWWAP
HUH... WHAT'S WRONG?
KWHAM
WHY'S HE SO PISSED?
DUH
DOAR
(DOOR)
HOW DARE HE TREAT ME LIKE AN IDIOT?!

GRRR
KZAKT KZAKT
I'VE ALWAYS THOUGHT YOU WERE CUTE
...
JUNE
SOB... I MISS YOU, KEN.
HAAH
ENDED UP CRYING
KEN...
HUB BUB


I CANT GET MYSELF TO TELL HIM I HAVE A BOYFRIEND EITHER.
NO, I DON'T!
EX-CUSE ME?
SAY, YOU HAVE A GIRL?
FLINCH
YEAH? THEN WE'RE PALS.

YA BET I'M DRINKIN' I'M DRINKIN' ALRIGHT!
TWO DRAFTS OVER HERE!
YO, KEN. YOU DRINKIN'?

BAM
HEY HEY YOU ALRIGHT?


I GOTTA HIT THE BATH-ROOM...
ALRIGHTY... I'LL MURDER YOU IF YOU FIND A GIRLFRIEND FIRST

DAZED
HUH ?
:O...

DID I DRINK TOO MUCH?
I'M GONNA HEAR IT FROM JUNE AGAIN
PHEW. THAT WAS A CLOSE ONE

YOKO-YAMA...
YOU OKAY? YOU'RE WASTED.
THIS WAY.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING? THE WOMEN'S BATHROOM IS ON THE OTHER SIDE.
C'MON
TOTTER
HAHA...
THAT'S WHAT I'M SAY-ING.
COMPANY DINNERS ARE PROVING TO BE PRETTY BORING.
HUH
BUS
I'VE ALWAYS THOUGHT YOU WERE PRETTY HOT.
HEY, YOU WANNA GET OUTTA HERE? YOU AND ME?
LET'S GO.
YEAH?
SHMF

YEAH.
KEN, YOU'RE SO...
KYA HA HA
PHEW
I'M GLAD I'M ABLE TO GET HARD.
OH, KEN...
I WANNA PUT IT IN
PUT IT IN.
I WANNA PUT IT IN
AH.
AHH
I WAN-NA PUT IT IN

I'D WANT TO IF YOU WERE A GUY!
PUT IT IN.
YEAH.
NN...
JUNE...!
GASP
SHOO?
JUNE?
CHEW
CHEW
PITCH DARK

WAHH
YOU'VE GOTTA LISTEN TO THIS!
I'M GLAD YOU'RE BACK, KEN!
KLACK KLACK
HE'S LATE.
YOU KNOW,
TO-DAY...
...
WHAT'S WRONG, KEN?!
WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR FACE?
TOUCH
...
WHA
..
PLOP
SORRY, JUNE.
JUNE,
I...
REAL SEX, GOING ALL THE WAY.
I WANNA HAVE SEX WITH YOU.
KEN..

UH-HUH.
I THINK
UH...
I HAVE BEEN WANTING TO DO IT, BUT...
CLENCH
WE BOTH LACK THE GUTS TO TAKE THE FINAL PLUNGE
SORRY.
I JUST COULDN'T GET MYSELF TO SET MY MIND ON IT.
IT IS.
WHICH IS UNDER-STANDABLE SINCE
IT'S A POO HOLE, YOU KNOW?

TOUCHED
I DON'T CARE AT ALL IT'S JUST A STUPID POO!
THAT STUPID THING IS... NOTHING!
BUT... I'M FINE WITH IT NOW. I MEAN I REALLY CARE ABOUT YOU, SO IT'S...
THINKING WE'D NEED THEM AS LONG AS YOU'RE FINE WITH IT, JUNE.♡
RUMMAGE
ACTUALLY... I BOUGHT ALL SORTS OF THINGS TODAY...
BUT...
WOW- IT'S LIKE TELEPA-THY.
TOUCHED
ACTUALLY, ME TOO. LOOK AT THIS.
THE DESIRE TO PUT THEIRS INSIDE THE OTHER.
WHAT IS THAT LOTION?
BOTH BOYS OVER-FLOWING WITH
THWAK
KEN, YOU MORON ----------!

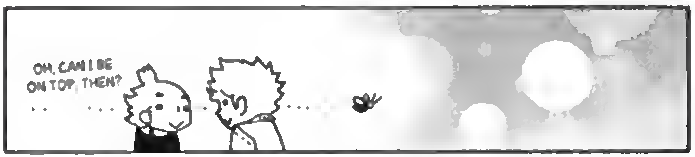
EVEN YOU, KEN...
JUNE ...?
FIRST TIME BEING SMACKED IN THE FACE WITH AN ENEMA KIT
BAPP...
YOU'RE TREATING ME LIKE A GIRL WITH THIS.
EVEN YOU NOW, KEN.
THOUGHT YOU WERE CUTE, JUNE

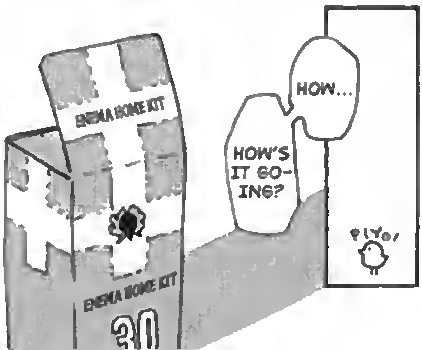
HAVE I...

HAVEN'T I BEEN IN LOVE WITH HIM THE ENTIRE TIME BECAUSE HE IS JUNE?
BECAUSE HE'S CUTE?

NO, JUNE I'M SORRY.
HAVE I HURT JUNE UNKNOWINGLY WITH MY SELFISH DESIRES?
YEAH, I ALSO LIKED YOU BACK THINKING YOU WERE REALLY CUTE
OLD PART-TIME JOB
WHEN YOU TOLD ME ABOUT YOUR FEELINGS FOR ME BACK THEN,
BUT, IT'S DIFFERENT NOW
YEAH, WELL...
WE'RE BOTH MEN, AFTER ALL.
SO, I DON'T CARE IF I'M ON TOP OR BOTTOM. WHATEVER'S FINE.
SOB
SOB...
DOF...
KEN...
MOVED
I HATE IT. I HATE ARGUING WITH YOU OVER SOMETHING LIKE THIS.

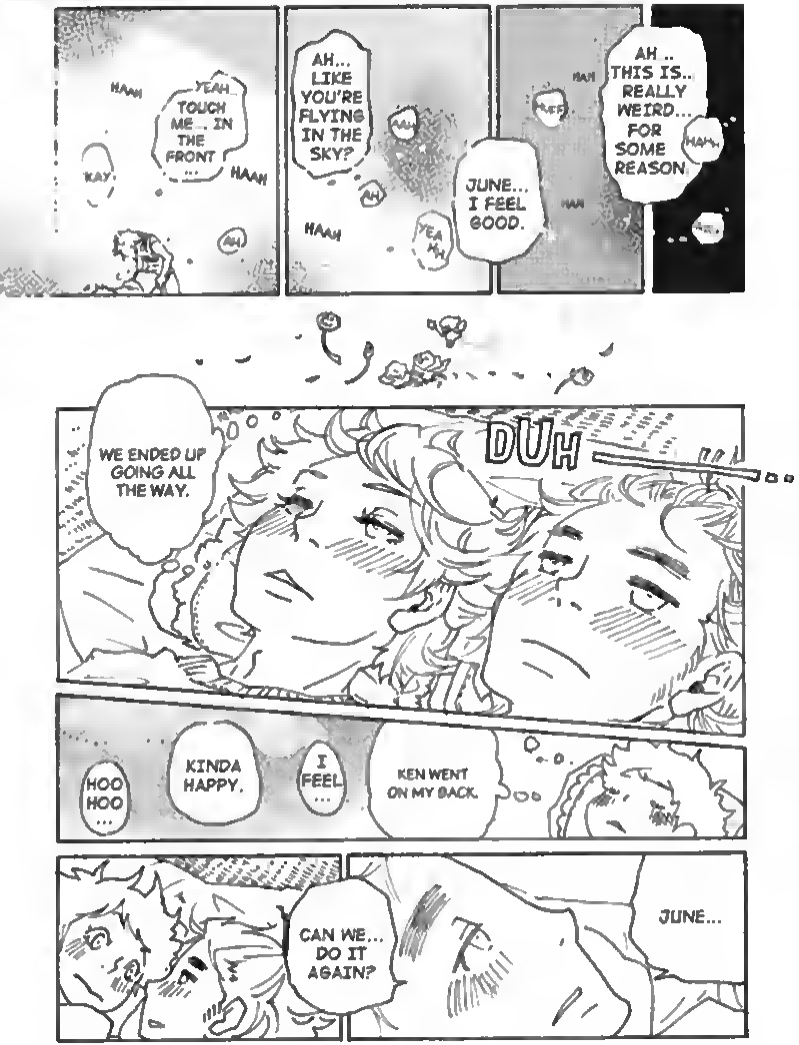
SORRY...
JUNE ..
I'M FINE EITHER WAY.
I DON'T CARE IF I'M ON TOP OR BOTTOM... IF I CAN BE WITH YOU...

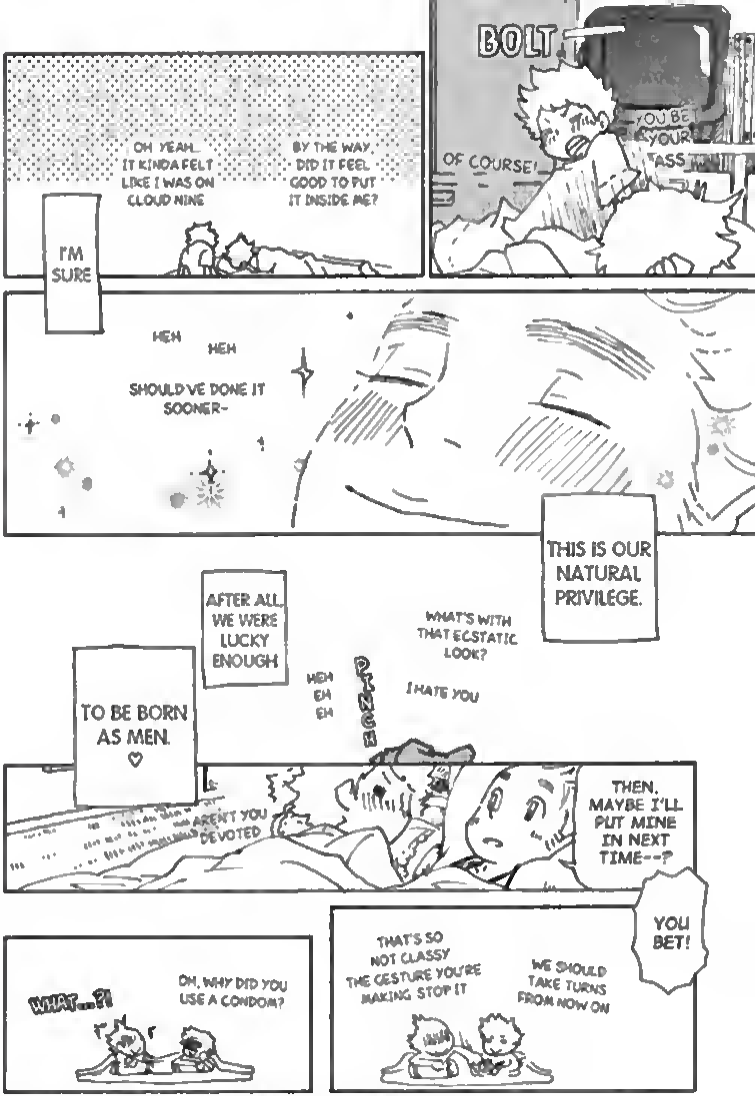

OH, CAN I BE ON TOP, THEN?


ENEMA HOME KIT
ENEMA HOME KIT
30
HOW'S IT GOING?
HOW...
PIYo!

I AM... FINE WITH IT, BUT LET'S SETTLE IT WITH ROCK PAPER SCISSORS!
ROCK PAPER SCISSORS
ROCK PAPER SCISSORS
(CAN'T GIVE UP)

THE SITUATION TURNED OUT THIS WAY
P... PROBABLY.
UNGH
I'LL START TOUCHING YOU.
DID... DID EVERYTHING COME OUT?
UM... THIS IS WEIRD.
AHH
AMAZING. YOU'RE REALLY HARD, JUNE.
AM!
AHH ...
KEN ...
OOH!
AHH!
I THINK I'M REALLY GONNA GET IT IN.
IT WIDENED
NNGH
WAIT ... ACK!
WHOA
AHH .. UNG...
HEEK
Y...YOU ALRIGHT?
HUFF
WAS THAT A SHRIEK -
EEEACCK
EE...
SHWOOP
TH, THEN, HERE I COME.


HAAH
YEAH
TOUCH ME... IN THE FRONT ...
KAY
HAAH
AH
AH... LIKE YOU'RE FLYING IN THE SKY?
AAH
AH
HAAH
YEAHH
JUNE... I FEEL GOOD.
HAH
HAH
AH.. THIS IS.. REALLY WEIRD... FOR SOME REASON.
HAHH
WE ENDED UP GOING ALL THE WAY.
DUH
HOO HOO ...
KINDA HAPPY.
I FEEL ...
KEN WENT ON MY BACK.
CAN WE... DO IT AGAIN?
JUNE...

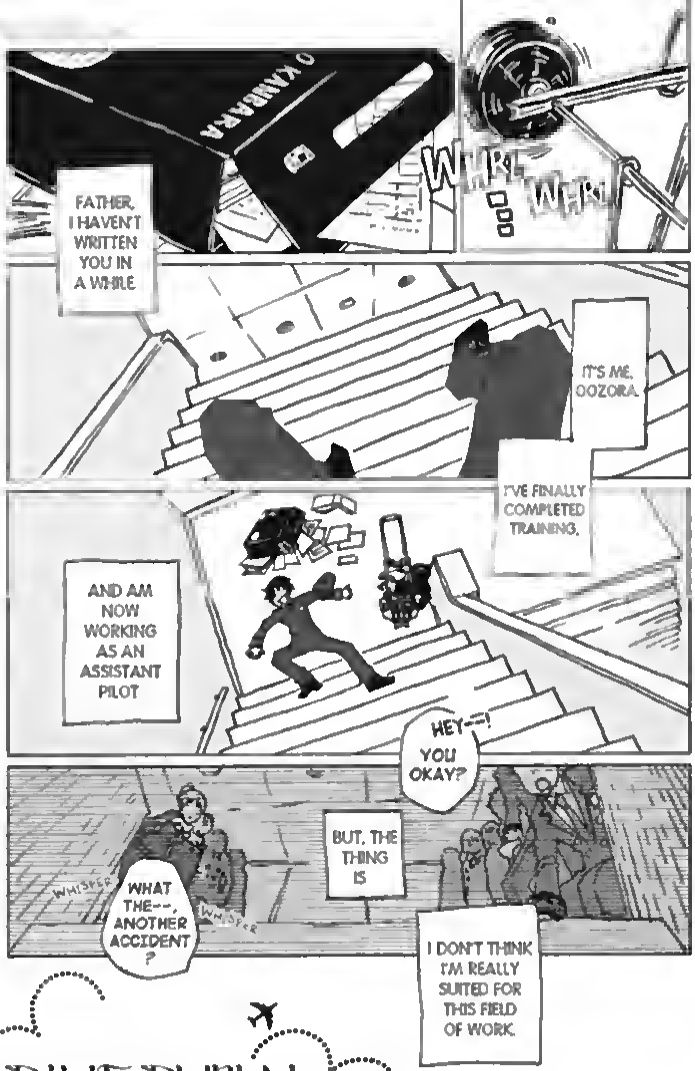

BOLT
OF COURSE!
YOU BE YOUR ASS
OH YEAH. IT KINDA FELT LIKE I WAS ON CLOUD NINE
BY THE WAY, DID IT FEEL GOOD TO PUT IT INSIDE ME?
I'M SURE
HEH HEH
SHOULD'VE DONE IT SOONER~
THIS IS OUR NATURAL PRIVILEGE.
AFTER ALL, WE WERE LUCKY ENOUGH
TO BE BORN AS MEN. ♡
WHAT'S WITH THAT ECSTATIC LOOK?
I HATE YOU
HEH EH EH
PINCH
AREN'T YOU DEVOTED
THEN, MAYBE I'LL PUT MINE IN NEXT TIME--?
YOU BET!
WHAT...?!
OH, WHY DID YOU USE A CONDOM?
THAT'S SO NOT CLASSY THE GESTURE YOU'RE MAKING. STOP IT
WE SHOULD TAKE TURNS FROM NOW ON

THE END OF *WE WERE LUCKY ENOUGH TO BE BORN AS MEN.*

ORDER FROM RIGHT HERE~!
NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT...
HUH?
MAN, THAT GUY KOJI FROM MY DEPARTMENT WAS LIKE, "YOU HAVE WEIRD TASTE." HOW COULD HE TALK LIKE THAT TO ME?
YOU TOO, KEN?!
IT'S TRUE THAT YOU BRING HOME WEIRD FIGURINES.
AHAHA
THIS KINDA STUFF IS CUTE TO YOU, YOU SAY
(SAME KIND)
BONUS MANGA

THE END OF *BONUS MANGA*.

Sumitomo Morozumi
Merry Family Plan
NET COMICS


FATHER, I HAVEN'T WRITTEN YOU IN A WHILE
WHIR, WHIR
IT'S ME, OOZORA.
I'VE FINALLY COMPLETED TRAINING.
AND AM NOW WORKING AS AN ASSISTANT PILOT
HEY--! YOU OKAY?
BUT, THE THING IS
I DON'T THINK I'M REALLY SUITED FOR THIS FIELD OF WORK.
WHAT THE--, ANOTHER ACCIDENT ?
WHISPER
WHISPER

BLUE BURIAL

I'M COVERED WITH WOUNDS HERE!
ISN'T IT A GOOD THING THAT YOU'RE NOT INJURED?
SLURP
SLURP
WELL,
GRROOO
SH
WHAT DO YOU MEAN MESS?
I MEAN LOOK AT THE MESS YOU'VE BECOME
WOW
WANNA GO TO USJ THE NEXT HOLIDAY?
I BET YOUR FATHER'S ANGRY WITH YOU.
WOW
WRINKLED
TOTALLY WRINKLED UNIFORM!
CROOKED
CROOKED TIE!
THAT UNKEPT, LONG HAIR!
MESS
I ALSO DON'T LIKE THIS UNIFORM.
NOT REALLY.
BUT...
IF YOU SAY THAT CRAP AGAIN, YOUR FATHER WILL GET UPSET AND COME CHASE YOU DOWN
FROM YOU, I CAN'T DETECT ANY PASSION FOR WORK.
THIS IS MY CO-WORKER SENJU HE LECTURES A LOT, BUT HE TAKES GOOD CARE OF ME.

NO WAY.
GLARE
SHAKE
HUH?
HUH?
SENJU OFTEN SCARES ME BY CLAIMING THAT HE CAN SEE THINGS THAT ARE INVISIBLE TO THE NAKED EYE BECAUSE HE GREW UP IN A TEMPLE
SHUDDER
SOMETHING STRANGE IS TRYING TO POSSESS YOU.
IT'S NOT YOUR FATHER, THOUGH.
HE DOESN'T SEEM TO BE AN EVIL SPIRIT.
OH, IT'S OKAY.
WAIT, HEY!
MAN, THIS ISN'T GOOD. I'M GONNA BE LATE
GLARE
UH. UM.
OF COURSE, I DON'T BELIEVE THAT KINDA.
SENJU——!
A VOICE
I HEAR
ENTER

WHY WOULD GHOSTS CARE ABOUT TIMING?!!
I'VE BEEN TRYING TO DECIDE WHEN THE BEST TIME TO TALK TO YOU WOULD BE...
MY APOLOGIES.
BUT, THE SAME STAIRCASE YOU ROLLED DOWN FROM, I ALSO...
I ENROLLED HERE BECAUSE HOVE UNIFORMS SO MUCH!
SO, WHY ME?
AFTER I REGAINED MY CONSCIOUSNESS, THIS WAS HOW I...
SILENCE
I MEAN, I HADN'T EVEN FINISHED THE LONG TRAINING PERIOD AND BECAME AN ASSISTANT PILOT AND ALL
OH.
TARO...
IT'S YAMADA TARO.
SERIOUSLY?
WAIT A MINUTE...
MY NAME'S KANBARA. YOURS?
BUT TRY TO GET OUTTA HERE ASAP, WILL YA?
YOU DON'T SOUND LIKE A BAD GUY.
MUMBLE
MUMBLE
?
?

KANBARA.
GUESS THIS IS SOMEWHAT CONVENIENT.
A FEW DAYS LATER.
AT TIMES I'D REGAIN MY CONSCIOUSNESS AND FIND MYSELF ALREADY AT HOME
WELCOME HOME
GASP
IN A NUTSHELL, THAT'S HOW I BEGAN MY STRANGE LIVING-TOGETHER ARRANGEMENT WITH TARO
GOOD MORNING
I'D WAKE UP SCREAMING AS I FOUND MYSELF BRUSHING MY TEETH FOR SOME REASON
KYAH
WHAT'S GOING ON? THE STEWARDESSES HAVE BEEN GETTING LOUDER FOR A WHILE NOW
WELL, THE ASSISTANT PILOT'S POSITION IS EMP--
KYAAK
SO CUTE
PFFT
HAVEN'T WE BEEN GETTING MORE WORKLOADS LATELY?
OH, SENJU, GOOD JOB.
YEAH, I'M REALLY EXHAUSTED.
WHAT IS IT?! WAIT... TARO!
SOME UNKNOWN FORCE
WHOOSH
KANBARA-SANCHI SECOND
KYAH
KYAH
OH, A NEW UNIFORM FOR THE STEWARDESSES.
HEY, WHERE DID YOU GO?
IN A FLASH
IT WON'T RUN AWAY EVEN IF YOU DON'T RUSH TOWARDS IT LIKE THAT.
WHA--.
WOW--.

YIKES! I FORGOT THAT CAPTAIN IIYAMA WAS UPTIGHT
I APOLOGIZE
NICE MEETING YOU
YOU'RE LATE! AREN'T YOU AWARE THAT WE WERE SUPPOSED TO LEAVE AN HOUR AGO?!
BOW
I'M KANBARA, YOUR ASSISTANT PILOT, SIR
BOW
PHEW
AGK
I'M LATE! IT'S ALL 'CAUSE OF YOU!
WAK-
D DON'T GET TOO EXCITED IT'S CONTAGIOUS
THUMP THUMP
ZACK-
WE HAVE THE FINAL WEIGHT AT 7,500.
WEIGHT MEASUREMENT 7,500
HEY, HEY.
ROGER
CARGO LOADING COMPLETE!
ROGER.
DID YOU SEE IT, KANBARA-SAN?!
RIGHT. I'M SORRY, SIR.
IT'S LONGER THAN THE REGULATIONS ALLOW IT.
NICE COLOR TOO, RIGHT?
GOOD GRACIOUS. WHAT IS WITH YOUR HAIR?
OH, WHAT DO YOU THINK OF IT, KANBARA-SAN?
ARE YOU LISTENING TO ME?
...
HEY CALL FOR THE CLEARANCE!
ESPECIALLY THAT CAP!
YOUNG BOYS THESE DAYS ARE JUST...
OH, YOU THOUGHT IT WAS PRETTY COOL, DIDN'T YOU?!
SO FULL OF HIMSELF
DOES HE THINK THAT HAIR WILL GET HIM GIRLS?

GOSH
KANBARA-SAN
ARE YOU LISTENING?
YOU'RE SO L---
OUD...
ACK I DIDN'T MEAN TO. I'M SORRY CAPTAIN!
PWOK
IT'S ALL YOUR FAULT!
IDIOT!
KTHWM
THAT'S ONE LOUD BATHROOM VISIT
YOU THINK SORRY IS ENOUGH?!
S..SORRY.
YOU'RE SORRY?
DON'T SHOW UP EVER AGAIN!
IF YOU'RE DEAD, ACT LIKE A DEAD MAN.

WHAT? THAT'S A BLANK PIECE OF PAPER.
I HEARD, A WRITTEN APOLOGY, EH?
IT'S NOT MY FAULT.
THERE WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN A PROBLEM, RIGHT?
LOOK AT YOUR APPEARANCE TO BOOT
BUT, IF YOU WERE PAYING MORE ATTENTION FROM THE GET-GO,
...
BE-CAUSE
IT WAS MY MOTHER'S DREAM.
TAP...
THERE'S ALSO THAT QUESTION OF WHY YOU ARE DOING THIS JOB IN THE FIRST PLACE
UGH
THEN, WHAT? YOU'RE FORCED TO WEAR THAT UNIFORM AND BE A PILOT 'CAUSE SOMEONE ASKED YOU TO, HUH?

I GET CHILLS JUST THINKING ABOUT HOW UNMOTIVATED MORONS LIKE YOU ARE SITTING IN THE PILOT'S SEAT AND BEING RESPONSIBLE FOR OTHER PEOPLE'S LIVES
WHAT A SPINE-LESS IDIOT
WHAT A WASTE OF A NAME
HEY, WHY DON'T YOU JUST WRITE UP A LETTER OF RESIGNATION WHILE YOU'RE AT IT?
FOR YOUR PARENTS TO CALL YOU OOZORA (VAST SKY).
WHAM
IT'S JUST AS SENJU SAID
I...
I'M SORRY. T(X) I WAS AT I NEED AND...
I'M .. SORRY ABOUT TODAY I WAS HARSH.
TARO

YOU DON'T LIKE IT, DO I MEAN, THIS JOB?
YOU REALLY LOVE UNIFORMS, HUH?
MY FATHER WAS A PILOT AND MY MOTHER WAS A STEWARDESS.
WHAT ABOUT YOU, KANBARA-SAN?
OH...
FATHER PASSED AWAY...
WHEN I WAS IN JUNIOR HIGH.
TAK
HENCE, THE STUPID NAME THEY GAVE ME.
THAT'S AMAZING! WHERE'S YOUR FATHER NOW?
HA.. HAHA...
HE WAS SO THRILLED WHEN HE HEARD HE WAS GONNA BE PROMOTED THAT HE SLIPPED DOWN A STAIRCASE
THAT'S WHAT I HEARD
WATCH OUT!
CLENCH
WITH FATHER GONE LIKE THAT, I THINK MOTHER WANTED ME TO BECOME A PILOT EVEN MORE.
THAT'S WHY I WORKED SO HARD.
BUT...
I MUST'VE HAD A REAL REASON WHY I WANTED TO BE ONE.
I CAN'T REMEMBER IT NOW.

SAY SOME-THING. THIS IS EMBAR-RASSING
DRAG
HEY--. TARO?
SHUFFLE
SORRY... I SHOULDN'T HAVE BROUGHT THAT UP.
UH, UM... I WAS TRYING... TO HOLD YOUR HAND.
BUT MINE KEPT GOING THROUGH...
THAT'LL FREAK ME OUT IF YOU COULD
YES
ISN'T IT OBVIOUS THAT YOU CAN'T GRAB ME?
SKRYCH
AREN'T YOU STUPID.
SKRYCH
AH...
WELL... YOU CAN USE MY BODY FOR A BIT.
SKRYCH...
YOU CAN WEAR WHATEVER CLOTHES ARE IN THERE, TOO.
B, BUT...
SHUT IT. IF I SAY IT'S OKAY, IT'S OKAY. DO WHAT YOU WANNA DO.

IT'S NOT LIKE I KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT YOU.
MOVED
KANBARA-SAN..
THAT DOESN'T MEAN...
BUT . . .
WHAT THE...! THIS IS OUR NEW UNIFORM!
I'M GETTING THE BOOT IF I GET CAUGHT!
#UKK
AAHHH MY LONG BELOVED STEWARDESS UNIFORM!
I DON'T THINK SUDDENLY PUTTING YOUR FETISHES ON DISPLAY IS THE WAY TO GO.
SOB...
GASP, WAIT! PLEASE DON'T GET CARRIED AWAY!
A CRUCIAL BODY PART MIGHT UNDERGO A TRANSFORMATION TOO!
WAIT, WHERE DO YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING?
ACK --!
NOT THAT PLEASE
I...I'VE ALWAYS DREAMED OF WALKING OUT PROUDLY IN A UNIFORM!
EXCESS PADDING
THU-THOOM

MUST GET USED TO IT NOW.
STOMP
WHRL
OKAY, I'M HAPPY FOR YOU. LET'S HURRY UP AND GET BACK.
REEL
WOW~ THIS IS AWESOME. KANBARA-SAN!
IF I GET CAUGHT, GETTING BOOTED WON'T BE THE LEAST OF MY WORRIES.
SPIN SPIN
IT'S REALLY WINDY.
AH,
WHOOSH
HEY, TARO. YOU CRYING?
....
TARO?

SOEEE
GROOOSH
THANKS FOR THE LAST TIME.
UM...
WHAT? THIS ISN'T THE RIGHT PLACE FOR YOUR LETTER OF RESIGNATION.
SENJU.
YOU'RE TALKING AN AWFUL LOT
BUT YOU TOTALLY DON'T FIT THIS NEW IMAGE
I'VE FINALLY REMEMBERED
YOU'VE SERIOUSLY CLEANED UP, I SEE..
BWA HA HA
FATHER
TO LOOK GOOD TO THE LADIES
YOU'RE GONNA MAKE IT BIG
THAT'S OBVIOUS
WHAT?
BY THE WAY, WHY DID YOU BECOME A PILOT?

IT'S TIME.
YIKES
HOW COOL YOU LOOKED IN YOUR UNIFORM THAT DAY
HOW MUCH I'VE LONGED TO SEE THAT AGAIN.
YEAH.
ANOTHER FRIEND OF MINE WHO HELPED ME REMEMBER THAT
YEAH, HE'S ENTERED NIRVANA
BUT TARO'S GONE.
ISN'T HERE WITH ME ANYMORE
TARO.
LOOK, THAT'S A TAKEOFF.
BUT, I THINK I'LL BE ABLE TO SEE HIM AGAIN. I WILL WRITE AGAIN
- YOUR LOVING OOZORA

I'M THE NEW ASSISTANT PILOT YAMADA TARO!
I'M TARO.
9 MONTHS LATER
IT TOOK ME A WHILE TO ENROLL, BECAUSE I WAS IN AN ACCIDENT. AFTER I GOT OUT OF THE HOSPITAL, I HAD TO GO THROUGH TRAINING AGAIN. GREAT TO MAKE YOUR ACQUAINTANCES!
BLAH BLAH
BOW
WHAT?
LOOKS FAMILIAR FOR SOME REASON.
SNAP
I'M NEVER GOING TO FORGET THAT NIGHT, NOT FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE!
PALE
"THAT NIGHT"...
KUBBUBooo
KANBARA-SAN?! IT'S ME, TARO!!
I MISSED YOU!
SQUEEZE
KRAK
HA !!
I'M.. KANBARA... ASSISTANT PILOT.
CRUMPLE
YAMADA, TARO?
WHAT ARE YOU, THE LIVING DEAD?!
PWOK
Take off
NOTHING... HOWEVER, I DO HAVE MANY THINGS TO SCOLD YOU ABOUT, BUT MOST IMPORTANTLY
WHISPER "THAT NIGHT"
WAIT. YOU ARE GAY?
HRN? WHAT'S WRONG?

THE END OF *BLUE BURIAL*.

IF YOU WILLINGLY DINE ON POISON, MAKE SURE YOU EAT EVERY LAST BITE.

A SIDE STORY TO A SILENT UNDER-STANDING

PRETTY ODD.
NOW THAT I SAW IT WITH MY OWN EYES.
CLIK
CLIK
CLIK
THAT'S MAKING ME FEEL...

I WONDER IF IT'S 'CAUSE YOSHIO'S SOMEONE I'VE BEEN TAKING CARE OF FOR YEARS LIKE HE'S MY OWN OTOUTO.

SNAP
THAT'S YOSHIO, AFTER ALL.
I BET HE'LL CRY LIKE THIS
YOSHI-NOR!
AND CLING ON TO ME.
LOOKS LIKE I'M GONNA HAVE A HARD TIME.
CLIK
CLIK
CLIK

YOSHIO.

IDIOT, WE ALREADY MET THIS MORNING.
H, HI--!
WHAT?!
WHAT THE HECK IS THIS ABOUT?
LISTEN, YOU THINKING ABOUT YOUR FUTURE AND STUFF AT ALL?
BUT, YOU SAID YOU DIDN'T WANT TO TAKE OVER YOUR PARENTS' BARBER SHOP.
THEN, WHY ALL OF A SUDDEN
IF I DO...
HRN?
WHAT?!
I, FOR ONE, AM THINKING ABOUT INHERITING MY FAMILY BUSINESS.
HUH?
GET A JOB...
WELL, I'LL GO TO COLLEGE LIKE EVERYONE ELSE AND...

YOU OPEN UP A SHOE SHOP NEXT DOOR.
OHH, SO THIS IS WHAT IT MEANS TO...
IF YOU DO THAT ...
I'LL BE ABLE TO LOOK AFTER YOU FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE EVEN IF SOMETHING HAPPENS TO YOU.
IF YOU WILLINGLY DINE ON POISON, MAKE SURE YOU EAT EVERY LAST BITE.*

*MEANING: WHEN YOU START SOMETHING, EVEN IF IT KILLS YOU, SEE IT TO THE END.

WHAT THE HELL IS THIS?! YOSHINORI PROPOSED TO YOSHIO?!
HOLY CRAP!
ACK
(EXCHANGE DIARY)
(GIRLY)
YOSHINORI SAID THAT TO ME TODAY. I FEEL LIKE I ONLY MAKE HIM WORRY ALL THE TIME— LET'S GO SOMEWHERE AND HANG OUT NEXT TIME. THE TIME

THE END OF *IF YOU WILLINGLY DINE ON POISON, MAKE SURE YOU EAT EVERY LAST BITE.*

THE SMILE UNDER THE MASK

I LOVE DRAWINGS THAT COVER UP THE MOUTH, AND THAT MADE ME THINK OF THIS STORY.

I BORROWED KUBA-SAN'S NAME FROM SOMEONE WHO I'VE LONG THOUGHT WAS COOL. SHOTA WAS A CUTE CHARACTER, SO I GAVE HIM A SUITABLY SOUNDING NAME. HE'S CUTE AND SIMPLE! I LIKE ROUND-SHAPED HEADS.

AN UNFADING ROSE COVERED IN MUD

I'VE ALWAYS BELIEVED THAT BEAUTIFUL AND FUN THINGS USUALLY HAVE A DARK, SELF-REJECTING SIDE TO THEM, A SIDE THAT FLOWS UP FROM THE DEPTHS OF THE HUMAN SPIRIT. I WANTED TO EXPRESS THAT CONCEPT.

I SUPPOSE THAT IS PRECISELY WHY THOSE THINGS ARE SO MUCH MORE AWESOME. THAT GOES WITHOUT SAYING, THOUGH!

AUTHOR'S NOTES ON THE SHORTS

BLUE BURIAL

THIS IS THE VERY FIRST ORIGINAL MANGA THAT I MANAGED TO DRAW WITH PROFESSIONAL QUALITY ARTWORK.

HOW SHOULD I PUT IT... I'VE ALWAYS BELIEVED THAT MY WORK WOULD BE MORE FAVORED IF MY DRAWINGS ALSO LOOKED A BIT FUNNY AND MADE MY READERS LAUGH. WITH THAT IN MIND, I'VE BRAVELY INCLUDED THIS PIECE WITHOUT RETOUCHING IT!

A SILENT UNDERSTANDING

I CREATED THIS SHORT WITH A RACING HEART, BECAUSE I LOVE HOW BOYS LOOK IN THEIR SCHOOL UNIFORMS AND SHINY NEW NAME TAGS.

I ALSO ENJOY STORY STRUCTURES INVOLVING COUPLES WHO LIVE COMPLETELY OBLIVIOUS TO THEIR SURROUNDINGS, WHO UNINTENTIONALLY HARM A THIRD PERSON OUTSIDE THE COUPLE.

WE WERE LUCKY ENOUGH TO BE BORN AS MEN

I DREW THIS ONE THINKING IT WOULD BE VERY PHYSICAL.

I WANTED TO SHOW FRONTAL NUDITY WITH BODY HAIR, ARMPITS AND PUBIC HAIR, TOO. HUFF, HUFF...

SCHOOL UNIFORMS ARE ONLY REMEMBERED WHEN THOSE YEARS HAVE ALREADY BEEN LIVED
IT'S THAT SCHOOL UNIFORMS MAKE MY HEART RACE.
STARE
LOOKS GOOD WHEN UNBUTTONED.
ESPECIALLY THOSE CHINA COLLARS THERE WAS A BOOM, BUT IT'S HARD FOR ME TO FIND THEM FROM WHERE I LIVE
LOOKS GOOD WHEN BUTTONED
HOHO
IF YOU DO IT WITH... IT'S KICKASS.
BLAZERS ARE REALLY AWESOME, TOO! NO, ANYTHING LOOKS GOOD AS LONG AS IT'S ON A STUDENT!
SO, IS YOU LOOK AT
OH, I SEE (BRAIN STRUCTURE TALK)
KWHAM
THANK YOU SO, SO, SO MUCH FOR PICKING UP THIS VOLUME OF THIS HUMBLE MANGA-KA S!
(BIG BOW)
A PUDDLE OF TEARS
I'M SO THANKFUL THAT I CAN'T LIFT UP MY HEAD!
WHOOPEE--!
LET ME DO THIS AGAIN NICE TO MEET YOU! I'M SUMITOMO MOROZUMI
THE THING IS...
THIS IS AN OLD STORY THAT I'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT AGAIN RECENTLY

TO EVERYONE WHO HAS READ MY LESS-THAN-PERFECT MANGA TO THE END, THANK YOU SO MUCH! I HOPE YOU ENJOYED IT!

I THINK IT WILL MAKE ME SO HAPPY IF THIS BOOK BREATHES ON THE SHELVES OF MY READERS AND IS OPENED FROM TIME TO TIME WHENEVER THEY ARE REMINDED OF IT.

ANYWAY... IF YOU READ THIS FAR, YOU MIGHT HAVE NOTICED...

THAT I MUST REALLY LIKE DRAWING SILLY CIRCLES.

IF YOU'RE NOT CAREFUL, YOU MIGHT END UP WITH ONE OF THESE TYPES OF FACES.

ODD FACES

✿ THANK YOU NOTE ✿

MY COLLEAGUE 'K'TO-SAN WHO PROVIDED AN INDESCRIBABLE AMOUNT OF HELP,
MY FRIEND SUMIE WHO HELPED ME OUT EVEN THOUGH SHE WAS ALWAYS BUSY,
GAN-CHAN, HIGUCHI, MATSUOKI, GACHAMI-SAN...

MY STORIES CAME TOGETHER AS ONE VOLUME, ALL THANKS TO THE MANY FOLKS WHO HAVE HELPED ME.

THANK YOU!! I THANK YOU FROM THE BOTTOM OF MY HEART.

BIG BOW

SOB

SOB